LIFE STORY of

JAMES MILLIKIN

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2026

https://archive.org/details/lifestoryofjames0000unse

SFTS Library
105 Seminary Road
San Anselmo, CA 94960
(415) 451-2845
All items are subject to recall

CONTENTS

	Page
Preface	1
Forebears of James Millikin	3
Sources of the name Millikin	3
Migrations to England and Scotland	3
The Millikins in Ireland	5
Preserve purity of blood	6
The Millikins in America	6
Lineage of our James XI	6
Letter from James I	7
James Millikin II	97
Dolly McFarland	9, 11, 97
Abel Millikin III	11
Patent for the Millikin homestead in Penn.	10
Abel Millikin's Family	12
James Millikin XI, Life story	13
Aston, Rev. Samuel M.	21, 63
Ashton, Anna Bernice, Mrs. James Millikin	16, 63
Boston, data in Public Library	25
Burglar episode	90
Camp Meetings at Ten-Mile	24
Origin Pleasant Hill Church	19
Pastors of same	21
Clarkstown	19
Clarksville	18
Dolly McFarland, Abel III mother	11
Evans, William, owner Millikin Homestead	19
Florida, the Millikin's Winter home	27
Last trip to it	28
Genealogy—Millikin book	25
Kennedy, Joan M.	16, 98
The McFarlands	8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 22, 24
The Machans	11
James Millikin XI	13, 15
Birth and boyhood	13, 15
Other members of his father's family	9, 10
Becomes a banker	27–47
Coat of Arms	24
Drives stock to New York	13
Drives sheep to Indiana	26
Education	15
Extracts, Washington College Catalog	15, 25
Locates in Danville	26
Moves to Decatur	27
Marries Miss Aston	26
Founding of the University	51

Page

His vow 16, 51
Proposition to establish it 53
Proposition accepted 54
Charter secured 57
Erection of buildings 59
Laying of cornerstone 59
Dedication, Roosevelt 59
Pleasure at its growth 86
Growth of banking business 47
Illness and death 28
Reception of body at home 32
Interment at Decatur 32
Extracts from city papers 29
Estimate in Fifty Years of Banking 48
Testimonials of friends and associates 32–36
Resolutions of College Boards and Students 39–40
Personal characteristics 41
Politics 89
Benefactions 43
Reflections 27
Start in stock-trading 13
Ten-mile drive 21, 22, 30
Interview there with Evans, etc. 20
Session minutes, Pleasant Hill Church 19
Trustees of Millikin Estate 44
Van Dyke, Nancy, first wife Abel III's, mother James XI... 9
Wabash College 16
Washington College 15
Washington Seminary 16
Ulster, home of James Millikin I 6, 7
Biography of Mrs. James Millikin 63
Sketch of her father's life 63
Ancestry 67–68
Comes to Mt. Zion, Illinois 64
Education 16
Courtship and Marriage 64
Family Life 66
Philanthropies 67
Anna B. Millikin Home 68–69
Art Interests 71
Aston Hall 71
Art Institute 71
Last illness and death 73
Development of Art Institute 75
Miscellany 85
Joan Kennedy and relatives 98
Judge N. C. McFarland 99
James Millikin McFarland 8, 100
His library 101

By ALBERT R. TAYLOR, PH. D., LL. D., L. H. D.
First President of the James Millikin University
1901-1913, 1915-1919, 1924

The Life Story

of

James Millikin *founder*

of

The James Millikin University

Published under the auspices of the Graduating Class *of the* Quarter-Centennial Year as an Expression of Appreciation
1901—1926

LD
2601
J2513
M54
1926

JAMES · MILLIKIN · UNIVERSITY
DECATUR · COLLEGE · AND · INDUSTRIAL · SCHOOL
1901

REGARDE BIEN
MILLIKIN

"Si Monumentum Requiris, Circumspice!"

JAMES MILLIKIN

PREFACE

Interesting accounts of Mr. Millikin's life after his arrival in Illinois have been published from time to time in the Decatur papers and in local biographies, the most reliable on the business and community side being that issued after his death by the board of directors of the Millikin National Bank under the title "Fifty Years of Banking—A Brief Sketch of the Millikin Bank of Decatur."

In response to the frequently expressed desire of many of his personal friends and the officials of the institution bearing his name as well as of the trustees of his estate, this more elaborate, tho still somewhat condensed story of his life is written in connection with the origin and founding of the James Millikin University.

This has been done with several objects in view, one of them being to trace his genealogy as far as possible to discover the influences in his ancestry and environments that may have made him the man he was and that induced him to consecrate his energies and his fortune to the establishment of an institution of learning in his adopted city of such an advanced type and which was soon to become the model for many others throughout the country and which together with the score of modern State Universities soon resulted in the re-organization of secondary education along comprehensive and popular lines.

The data for the early life were gathered chiefly by me from local sources at his home community in Pennsylvania by personal visitation and investigation as explained in the text later. Due credit is given to the other sources from which important data were obtained.

My quite intimate association with him thru the years in which the details of the organization of the University were worked out and thru the half dozen years of its institution and development, enable me to speak of many phases

of his personal character and of his ideals and motives which he even feverishly longed to see given expression in its conduct, enables me to speak with a definiteness and an assurance that will, I trust, be of great value to those entrusted with its future management in the more intelligent and the larger development of its usefulness in the sphere to which it was consecrated.

It is hoped that its perusal will prove an inspiration and a quickening impulse alike to young and old, stimulating larger vision and unselfish servcie.

I desire to express my heart-felt obligation to the Graduating Class of this Quarter-Centennial College year for its generous co-operation in assuming the publication and distribution of this memorial sketch of its founder.

FORBEARS OF JAMES MILLIKIN XI

GENEALOGISTS have, generally speaking, been at much pains to trace the sources and modifications of ancestral names, and the efforts to untangle many of them have been quite ingenuous and successful. The etymology of most of them is not without considerable interest.

The sources of the name Millikin are found in Normandy, Saxony and the Netherlands, whence came many immigrants into England and Scotland in the Norman invasion. Among those bearing its different forms and orthographies were many distinguished men ranking high before and after finding homes on the British Isle. A very large percent of them settled in Cumberland, Northumberland and adjacent counties in the Southwestern part of Scotland, where they are still numerous and influential.

One authority thinks Millikin is the diminutive for Miles and another that Milligan is of Gaelic origin; still another that it is an early Scotch form derived from Mil (milk) and Kine (cow), for they were dairymen—Milligan and O'Milligan give in corrupted form Millikin, another authority holds. Another form is Millican, which however is not Scotch. Other primitive forms are Mullikine, Milliken, etc.

The settlers bearing some form of the name coming to America are quite well scattered throughout the United States, though earlier they settled in New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, some of them bringing another spelling, Millicken.

In the locality where our James Millikin was born in Pennsylvania are found Millikens, Milligans, Millikins, et al. In referring to them as a class, I shall use the spelling with which we are familiar, though recognizing the fact that all using it are probably not of common origin.

The objects of the quest I made in the East were to discover the inheritance of our patron that may have prompted

him to live the life he lived and to make the noble contribution to the cause of Christian education which bears his name.

While there are cases in which the trend in the lives of men, great and small, cannot easily be accounted for, they are the exceptions rather than the rule, hence the encouragement to seek the forces in inheritance and environment which conspire to influence the lives of men and women for weal or woe.

These Millikins in Scotland were Presbyterians of the most consecrated religious type, suggestive of the New England Puritans, stalwart Christians seven days in the week and 365 days in the year. They read God's Law in his written word and observed it punctiliously. Their shepherds carried the Bible with them in tending their flocks on the hills and found time to study it reverently and digest it as they did their daily bread. So for twenty generations they have zealously preserved the faith of their fathers.

It will help to understand the difficulties in the way of the colonization of those Presbyterian Scotch people in Ireland by quoting a little historical note concerning their reception by the Irish Catholics in the province of Ulster.

> "It should be kept in mind that these Catholics had been dispossessed of their lands and homes by the kings and that they were naturally very hostile to the newcomers. Not only were the owners themselves disgruntled, but their sons who would soon inherit the estates took to the woods in the hiding places in the wilderness, and engaged in all sorts of conceivable forays, driving away the horses and cows of the newcomers, burning their crops and buildings, and treating their wives and daughters with shameful indignity. The persecution was unrelenting. They formed a company in 1640 aimed at the extinction of all Protestants in Ireland and forty thousand were suddenly massacred in different sections of the country. No condition, no age, no sex was spared, and death was the slightest infliction in many cases. All the tortures that wanton cruelty could devise, all the lingering pains of body, the anguish of mind and the agonies of despair could not satisfy the revenge of the Irish.
>
> "At length Cromwell avenged the blood of the slaughtered saints and crushed the insurrection."
>
> "In 1680, however, their oppressions became more intolerable until the emigration of the Scotch families ran up into

> thousands, coming to America, scattering along from Pennsylvania through into the Carolinas. The others migrated to Scotland, many still clinging to their lands and homes remained in Ireland, and became progenitors of those sturdy Milliken and Milligan families who now inhabit the green hills and cultivate the broad farms of Antrim, Armagh, Down and Londonderry." Time, however, assuaged the bitter antagonisms and horrors of these turbulent revolutions of the seventeenth century, but the solidarity Scotch element dominating Ulster gradually assured tranquility and prosperity which has become the theme of story and of song typical of ideal peasantry and happiness.

And yet though now living several generations more peaceably related there has always been an inherited suspicion which has kept both factions very watchful of each other. In this is the explanation of the persistent refusal of the Ulster Scotch to become a part of the Free State government with the consequent friction and occasional frays with which we are now familiar.

A small colony of Millikins seems to have settled quite early in Ireland. In 1603 King James I endeavored to reinforce them by offering inducements to Scotch Presbyterians to migrate to some six counties in the province of Ulster, among them being counties Down, Dromore, Antrim, etc. A few families responded to his offers, but Charles I especially desiring to reinforce his protestant constituency there increased the inducements sufficiently to attract a large number of them to join those already there demonstrating the fertility of the soil and the healthfulness of the climate.

They were industrious, frugal, wide-awake, peace-loving, loyal men and women, farmers and stock-raisers predominating among them. They soon led in propagating the finer breeds of horses, cattle, hogs and sheep, and Ulster became one of the most prosperous and wealthy of the Irish provinces.

The Irish population being so largely Roman Catholic, the Scotch immigrants were as prejudiced against them as were the Jews in settling Palestine. So tenacious were they of preserving the purity of their Scotch blood that inter-marrying was successfully prohibited. Macaulay supports the statement that consequently there was no such resultant class

as the Scotch-Irish in reality for these loyal, pious Scotch did not have a drop of Irish blood in their veins. They spoke a different language, sprang from different stocks. They not only spoke the unalloyed Scotch dialect but transmitted it conscientiously to their children.

James Millikin, of the Hamilton branch, of Ohio, writing of his grandfather, who came to Pennsylvania from Dromore, County Down, Ireland, about 1760, says:

> "He disliked to be called an Irishman for he insisted that he was of pure Scottish blood. He used the broad language spoken by the Lowland Scotch peasantry and sang Scotch songs as he sat at his loom, as they did in other States. They were a peculiar and royal race, truthful, God-fearing, honest, loyal, unafraid of death—these were their birth-marks, great soul features. These Ulster folk have always insisted that 'We are no Irish but Scoatch'."

These Millikins of varying orthography have several different coats of arms, most of them with certain suggestive resemblances. One of them is surmounted by a Knight's head-piece with visor capped by a lion rampant. Two similar lions occupy the upper field and one the lower field of the tablet divided by horizontal bars. Ornamental foliations hang from fore and rear of headpiece to the upper corners of the tablet. The most common motto is "Regarde Bien"—Esteem the good.

The Millikins in New England and New York were quite prominent in the business world, building mills, factories, etc.. and active in promoting community enterprises nearly everywhere they settled. They were patriotic citizens, twelve of them in the Revolutionary Army, and sixteen were on the pension list from the War of 1812.

A James Millikin fell mortally wounded at Bunker Hill, dying in prison at the age of twenty. Their names are frequently found in the army records of the Mexican war and of the Union Army in the Rebellion of 1861-4.

The lineage of our James Millikin XI has been verified from satisfactory data for nearly two hundred years. James Millikin I, great-grandfather of our James Millikin XI, was born in Ireland in 1737. He died at Dromore, County Down,

Province of Ulster, Ireland, May 12, 1789. His wife was Martha Hemphill, born 1729 and died May 12, 1800. Letters to relatives in 1786 confirm the impression that their later years were spent at or near Dromore. From the tone of the subjoined letter to his sons he appears to have been a godly man.

There were no less than nine children in this family, but we have not been able to gain much reliable information concerning some of them. The names were as follows: James, William, John, Mary, David, Martha, Samuel, Nancy, and Robert.

Dromore, Ireland, June 22, 1786.

Dear Son James—Having the opportunity of a bearer I think it my duty to let you know that we are in a merciful state of health at present, and thanks be to God for His mercies to us, hoping these lines will find you in the same. We received five letters from you in one day, one from your father-in-law, one from your wife, and another from your brother William, which was of a date of joy to us to hear from you all at once being alive after so long troublesome times in that country, for during those troubles my whole heart's desire and prayer to God was for you that ye might through His mercy be saved. Now I hope you have most partly through your troubles of war, that you will not be negligent, but sober and vigilant, never ceasing but praying God who preserved you the bypast times from accidents and enemies. Do thou now. I pray to God to let no evil befall thee nor plague come near thyself. Because of Evil Doers neither be thou Envious against the workers of Iniquity, for they shall be cut down like grass and wither as the green herb. Trust in the Lord and do good, so shalt thou Dwell in the land and verily thou shalt be fed. Be thou Stedfast in faith, you know the reward of being faithful unto Death, and that is a crown of glory or a promise of an heavenly inheritance for the which I hope you will walk circumspectly and worthy of the vocation where with you are called, keeping (the) unity of the Spirit in the Bond of peace. So this perhaps being my last opportunity that I'll get to write to you or any of yours, may the Lord with His mercies Bless you and cause Brotherly Love to continue amongst you and with His Grace Be daily present in your families and so be it. You are Desirous to know how I fared through the war. I answer you it was very Detrimental to us and (in) the most part of this County it Caused every kind of over Sea goods to be ill to purchase. Especially

the tobacco, it was at the Rate of 4 pence per pound but it and several other Commodities is go to the old Rate again most partly. You Desired a little Before to send some Clothing to you and that very year we had a great affliction and sickness and at the heels of that a great loss in this country came to 6s 6d per score but it Did not amount so that in this parish it was only 5s per score & 4s 10d and all other things too tedious now to mention. Conformably Dear likewise. Now making this opportunity Serve in writing to your Brother Wm. as to you as (at this) time cannot afford writing Sepperately to himself you will be careful to Remember our love to him and his family. Your sister Mary Remains still unmarried and lives always with us. Your brother David and your Brother Samuel was in the thought of going to that country this Summer but they have adjourned it to the next Spring. Samuel thought he was not learned enough to go into that Country. He intends Continuing at School this year yet for he means making his Bread on that Calling; your uncle James Hemphill was very despleased that you did not write to him separately in you letters he in now got to be a man of great oppulence and wealth him and his children they have purchased Several States as we call them farms, he has a farm you know of his own in Calmore well has now one in Claggon another (in) Lartmally and he intends sending one of his Sons to that Country to buy another of your father-in-law, his children are all unmarried and your aunt Jennet Hemphill Died six years ago. So I add no more but remain your Dutiful father till Death. James Millikin.

P. S.—Be sure to Remember your Mother's Love and mine to our Brother Col. Daniel McFarland and his Family.

James Millikin II, son of the foregoing, was born January 5, 1752, in County Antrim, Ireland. He married Dolly McFarland, who was born March 31, 1776, died July 30, 1837. She was the daughter of Colonel Daniel McFarland and Sarah Gray McFarland, a Revolutionary soldier who commanded Monongahela and Ohio Counties, now in Southwestern Pennsylvania, as stated in a letter and certificate among the papers of James Millikin McFarland of Topeka, Kansas, submitted to support his application for membership in The Sons of the American Revolution. Daniel was born at Worcester, Mass., September 9, 1731, and died at Washington, Pennsylvania, December 14, 1817.

This Dolly McFarland Millikin, Abel's mother, was a woman of unusual personal character and no small attainments. She was educated in Scotland and held a certificate and a license to practice mid-wifery. Her clientele in Pennsylvania was limited only by her power of endurance. Her church affiliation was Scotch-Presbyterian. Her husband, James Millikin, Abel's father, was a mild-mannered man of gentle ways, and it is recorded that in defiance of all remonstrance from him she rode a magnificent stallion, being known as a daring horse-woman — as well as a renowned medical practitioner.

> "Do we wonder that this superb woman gave four most notable sons to the medical world—that her mantel has descended to the second, third, and fourth generations and that today Dr. Neil Millikin of the fifth, after seven years of untiring special preparation in the finest medical institution in America now enters the profession with every assurance of a notable career?"

With such a heritage and an only brother also a physician, is it not surprising that James Millikin was able to stem the current in the same direction for himself and not also follow the others into the medical profession as his father is understood to desire? But Providence seems to have had another field for him whereby he would eventually become even more useful to the world than his kindred who followed his grandmother Dolly's footsteps in medicine. That vow in his sophomore year in Washington College drove him into the world of finance and eventually into the founding of a great institution of learning in the Mississippi Valley over sixty years later which will perpetuate his name and his life through all generations to come.

Abel Millikin III, eighth son of James II, was born at Ten Mile, Washington County, Pennsylvania, April 28, 1799. He married Nancy Van Dyke on March 27, 1822. She died in the late forties in Pennsylvania and was probably buried in the Amity graveyard. She was the mother of our James Millikin XI and in platting an addition in West Decatur, later he named a street Van Dyke in her honor. She was also the mother of his brother, Samuel, and of his three

sisters; Sarah, who married Judge Noah C. McFarland of Topeka, Kansas, dying in 1862 at Hamilton, Ohio. The second sister, Anna, married William Braden of Indianapolis, who was a prosperous merchant. Both died in middle life. An only child, Mrs. Lizzie Hanna, still lives in Los Angeles, California. Her daughter, Mrs. Wm. E. Clark, lives at 411 Forest Avenue, Oak Park, Chicago, Ill. Nancy, the third daughter, died a short time previous to the date set for her marriage to a prominent attorney of Hamilton, Ohio. Samuel became a prominent physician at Hamilton, Ohio, but died unmarried.

James was much attached to these children of his sisters and personally contributed liberally to their need during his life time, leaving a generous annuity to James Millikin McFarland in his will, and to Mrs. Elizabeth Braden Hanna.

A fine tract of land was conveyed to William Millikin, Abel's uncle, by a patent from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania under date of August 30, 1792, he holding a warrant for the same under date of August 28, 1785. The patent was written on parchment and is such a curiosity in some ways that it is herewith given in full. The wax seal is practically gone, only one letter on it being visible.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

To all, to whom these presents shall come, Greeting. Know Ye, that in consideration of the monies paid by William Millikin into the Receiver General Office of this Commonwealth at the granting of the warrant hereinafter mentioned and of the sum of One Pound fifteen shillings, and seven pence being aballance allowed him on the Receiver General Books pursuant to law, there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto the said William Millikin, a certain tract of land Called "Wild Cat Den" situate on a small branch of the middlefork of ten mile Creek in Washington County. Beginning at a post thence by the claim of Lazarus Timmons South Sixty-three degrees, West One hundred and sixty-five perches apost thence by vacant land North one degree East one hundred and nineteen perches to a black Oak North fifty degrees East one hundred thirty-seven perches to a Chesnut Oak North ten degrees East thirty-nine perches to an Hickory north fifty-seven degrees East eighty-five perches to a White Oak thence by the claim of John Good-

ens South eighty-six degrees East one hundred and fifty-five perches to an Hickory South eighteen degrees. East fifty-two perches to a Sugar tree and thence by vacant land South forty-eight degrees West Two hundred and sixty perches to the beginning, containing Three hundred and six acres, one hundred and five perches and allowance of six p. Cent for road, & Which said tract was surveyed in pursuance of a warrant dated 28 February 1785 granted to the said William Millikin with the appurtenance. TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Tract or parcel of land with the appurtenances unto the said William Millikin and his heirs to the use of him, the said William Millikin his heirs and assigns forever, free and clear of all restrictions and reservations as to mines, Royalties, Quitrents or otherwise excepting and reserving only the fifth part of all Gold and Silver Ore for the use of this Commonwealth to be delivered at the Pittsmouth clear of all charges.

IN WITNESS whereof Thomas Mifflin, Governor of the said Commonwealth, hath hereto set his hand and caused the State Seal to be hereunto affixed the thirtieth day of August in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and Ninety-two & of the Commonwealth the Seventeenth.

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Governor.

Attest: A. I. DALLAS, Secretary.

Enrolled in the Rolls office for the State of Pennsylvania in Pat book No. 20—page 6.

WITNESS my hand and seal of office the 30th day of August 1793.

NOAH IRWIN.

SEAL

Abel Millikin III was a man of property, being rated as the richest man in the County, the net worth over $20,000 probably. He was a farmer, stock raiser and dealer, handling thousands of cattle and other livestock. He lived in the original Millikin homestead at Ten-Mile, which his Uncle William probably built soon after receiving his patent for the same in 1792 and which James II inherited or bought from him later.

His mother, Dolly McFarland Millikin, made her home with him after his father died until her death in 1837. Abel was not only a man of affairs but a consecrated Christian gentleman of the highest type as shown in the records of the old Pleasant Hill Church mentioned elsewhere.

After the death of his first wife, Abel Millikin moved to Hamilton, Ohio, where his four brothers had preceded him. He married Mrs. Joana McFarland Machan of Argenta, Illinois, on February 21, 1849, who died April 18, 1855. She was a relative of Noah C. McFarland of Topeka, Kansas, husband of our Mr. Millikin's sister Sarah. She was the mother of Robert Machan, a respected citizen of Argenta, Illinois, and during his later years a resident of Decatur, where he occupied positions of trust and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. A son of his, George Stover Machan, married Miss Isabel Thompson of Brunswick, Maine, on September 29, 1898. He died on April 6, 1901. She was a graduate of Wellesley College with successful experience as a teacher, and in 1902 was appointed by the President to a chair in the department of Ancient Languages in The James Millikin University, serving as Secretary in the office until its opening in September, 1903. For several years past she has been head professor in the department, a most efficient and popular instructor from the beginning.

After Joana McFarland Machan Millikin's death, he married Emma Sackett, daughter of Dr. David G. Sackett and Martha Millikin, probably a cousin. About this time Abel and this third wife returned to Ten-Mile and both united with the Pleasant Hill congregation. She died in Pennsylvania, November 12, 1858. The remains of both these later wives mentioned lie in the family lot in Greenwood Cemetery at Hamilton, along with his own. Abel died April 6, 1865.

JAMES MILLIKIN'S LIFE STORY

James Millikin XI was born August 2, 1827, in Clarkstown, now Ten-Mile. He married Anna B. Aston, daughter of Rev. Samuel M. Aston, January 1, 1857, at that time living near Mt. Zion, Illinois, and for awhile pastor of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in that town. He was pastor of the Millikin's Church at Ten-Mile, then Clarkstown, when James was in his early teens.

There is very little data available about Mr. Millikin's early life, tho as a lad of eight he was the idol of his doting Grandmother, Dolly McFarland Millikin, and had many happy remembrances of special favors granted him by her. He probably was raised like most of the farm boys of that locality, working on the farm, herding sheep and cattle, which had a fair range at that time. He attended the district school in Winter, etc. That he read much and was an obedient, industrious youth like the Scotch boys in general seems unquestioned. He was a sturdy, aggressive fellow as shown in his driving flocks of sheep to Illinois when scarcely twenty. He and his sister Sarah joined the Pleasant Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church on May 27, 1843.

I am indebted to Mr. Chester Smith, now of Coronado, California, and his mother, Mrs. John E. Smith, for the following item:

"My father, John E. Smith, was a boyhood friend of James Millikin, the two living on adjoining farms on Ten-Mile Creek, Washington County, Pennsylvania. Mr. Millikin's elder brother, Samuel Millikin, taught the country school which both attended and were fast friends. In their young manhood they were much interested in stock-raising and at one time drove a herd of steers about five hundred miles to New York City, which was hardly equal in population to Decatur at this time. They drove them down Broadway to the stock yards, and disposed of them there satisfactorily."

Anent an item in a city paper some time since stating that they drove a bunch of steers to Philadelphia at one time, Chester writes me that he is positive about the New York trip and is inclined to think that there was another to Philadelphia also, tho it is probable that they went through it on their way to New York, as others did to get information about both markets.

> "My father afterwards came to Danville, Illinois, with Mr. Millikin, where he engaged in the grain business for some time, but later moved to Decatur and entered the insurance business, the intimacy between him and Mr. Millikin continuing thru life.
>
> "Mr. Millikin's office was in a small room in the back of the old bank building which he occupied until the present stately structure was erected. With other old-time friends, consisting mainly of my father and Silas Packard, and occasionally Jack Cloyd, James Hill, and Robert Machan, who made it their rendezvous, he often confided his purpose to build an industrial school for teaching young men to become good carpenters, brick masons, plumbers, etc. For at least ten years before he announced his plan of the University, he discussed its feasibility and gradually came to the conclusion to found a University which would include the Liberal Arts along with the industrial and practical courses."

Isabel Millikin, third daughter of James 2 (I), was born near Dromore, Ireland. She married John Harbinson of Pennsylvania. Their third daughter, Nancy, married a Mr. Baird, whose son, John Baird, came to Illinois, settling near Decatur. They had a daughter, Margaret E. Baird, who married Dr. Silas E. McClelland of Decatur. They reside at 904 West William street.

Mrs. McClelland thinks a relative of hers owned a large farm west of Philadelphia on the main road from West Pennsylvania on which drovers came and went to New York with their herds, furnishing feed, water and pasture as needed. He may have been the Joseph Millikin who formerly came to Decatur to buy land in the West for an eastern syndicate. He was a cousin of her grandmother, and when on these expeditions usually made his home with our James Millikin in Decatur. It is therefore possible that our James Millikin and

Mr. John E. Smith stopped on that farm a short time to rest up and refresh their stock on some of those trips.

In his genealogy of the Millikins Ridlon states that Mr. Millikin was educated at home well enough to enter Washington College. In the Autumn of 1846 the records state that he registered in the Preparatory and English Department. He was also registered as a special student in the Junior Class in the catalog for 1847-8.

The following extracts from the catalog give a good idea of the organization and standards of that men's college three-fourths of a century ago. It is now the well-known Washington and Jefferson College.

> The course of studies in the Academy and College for these years included English, Greek and Latin with Mathematics through Trigonometry and Calculus, Science through Astronomy, Geology, Chemistry and Mineralogy with much History, Philosophy, Constitutional Law and Greek Testament on the Sabbath. Natural History. Surveying. Civil Engineering, Hebrew and German.
>
> In one of the notes it is stated "that young men often come prepared on parts of the Junior and Senior studies and who have neglected some of the Freshman and Sophomore studies."
>
> "The mode of instruction in all of the departments of the college is designed to elicit the mental resources of the students, being conducted with a rigid attention to accuracy, but much more regard is paid to the quality than the quantity.
>
> "Students are required to attend every morning the reading of scriptures and prayer accompanied frequently with religious instruction and exhortation designed to keep before their minds the importance of their personal salvation with their personal responsibility to God and dependance on him for success, happiness and usefulness. On Sabbath they are required to attend public worship as parents direct or they may prefer. There is also a meeting on Sabbath morning for prayer and for reading the New Testament in the original Greek.
>
> "Strict discipline is enforced and diligence and industry on the part of the students encouraged. They are permitted to study any particular branches desired.
>
> "There are three libraries of about three thousand vol-

umes, a geological collection and a variety of antiquities, a telescope and philosophical and chemistry laboratories.

"Boarding varies in price though as cheap as at any place in the West for the same quality. In the college it does not exceed $1.50 per week and in private clubs from $.50 to $.75 per week. The tuition is $15.00 per session, paid in advance. Washington excels in point of morals, cheapness, healthfulness of climate, and in every other respect; no place is more suitable for the purposes of education."

It was while in attendance at that college that his sympathies were aroused by the struggles of the boys to secure funds to meet expenses and to overcome the inadequacy of their preparation for the classes they entered. Then and there, only twenty years of age, he made the vow that if ever he amassed a fortune, he would found an institution of learning in which all classes of youth could secure an education fitting them for any occupation they might desire to enter, which was finally redeemed in 1901 in the James Millikin University. Mr. Millikin decided to continue his education, and President G. L. McIntosh of Wabash College writes that its records show that he entered the second year of the Preparatory Department of that College, coming from Danville, Illinois. He was quartered in number twenty-one of the College dormitory. He also adds: "If I am correct in supposing that he was in the second year of the department, he would have had the first term Anabasis and exercises; Cicero's orations against Cataline; and Davies advanced Arithmetic and Davies Algebra. In the third term Virgil, six books; Anabasis; algebra finished. In addition there were weekly recitations in Latin and Greek, exercises written and oral. Also weekly exercises in composition and declamation, exercises in Orthography, Orthoepy and Grammatical Analysis in connection with recitations in the Rhetorical Reader."

Miss Kennedy, however, writes that he entered Wabash for the purpose of completing his course in Latin begun at Washington College.

Anna B. Aston, afterwards Mrs. James Millikin (XI), graduated at the Washington (Penn.) Female Seminary in June, 1854. She was preceded by Nancy V. Millikin, a sister of Mr. Millikin and Joana McFarland, both in the class of

1851. The latter married Mr. Machan, and after his death became the wife of Abel Millikin.

Mrs. S. R. Hannah was the first principal serving from its founding, 1840 to 1874. At the time the above named were in attendance the Seminary occupied a very large and well equipped brick building, three stories, which is still in good repair and to which a fine addition has been erected with more modern furniture, etc. It is a very home-like place, but is in the heart of a crowded business section and hopes soon to locate farther out of the main portion of the city.

The courses of study in the Seminary at that time included full courses in English, Geometry, Natural philosophy, elements of criticism, logic, evolution of Christianity, mental and moral philosophy, analogy of natural and revealed religion, etc.

> "Government to a great extent is parental, its true spirit being republican, regulated by a system of laws cultivate the social nature of pupils. A constant interchange of views and feelings, friendly collision with mind, the occasions that are presented for practical lessons of self-denial and self-control, of self-respect and respect for others and the exercise of sympathy and affection all tend to the forming and development of those habits and feelings which should distinguish a social circle, all being secondary to higher duties of morality and religion, tending to the attainment of the responsibility and duties we owe each other as children of one common Father, and keeping in view the great end of all education, intellectual, social, and moral is to make us perform our duties to each other and to God."
>
> "Regular hours are devoted to study, recitation, exercise and devotion. Liberty of church attendance is allowed but others are required to attend with the family of the principal. Parents and guardians are earnestly requested not to furnish their daughters and wards with jewelry or needless articles of apparel."
>
> "The course of study is designed to be thorough. Parents should not hurry their daughters over the course, as the formation of superficial habits disqualifies them for the responsibilities and enjoyments of life."
>
> "The health of scholars is constantly kept in view."
>
> "Many graduates go out to teach. An extensive field of usefulness is evidently opening to the female sex, justifying their parents in educating their daughters for that profession.

> An intelligent public may rest assured that the trustees will continue their unremitting exertions to deserve and maintain the celebrity and usefulness which the Seminary has acquired."
>
> These ideals of those early days are still controlling its management. The expense item is illuminating—"$55. per session of 12 weeks including bed, lodging and light plus $6.00 for the full winter session. $5 for washing, Tuition $16. per session; music, romance and German extra; Ornamental needle work $8.00. $235.00 will pay for everything."

In connection with the data given on the foregoing pages, I insert the memoranda of my trip East in September, 1924, for the purpose of securing more original and veridical information for this memoir and which proved very illuminating and helpful in many ways, much of which has already been included in the text up to this point.

Having had considerable correspondence with Mr. Samuel E. Taylor, President of the National Deposit Bank of Brownsville, Pennsylvania, the principal trading and shipping point of the Millikins, concerning the objects of my visit, I called on him at once after my arrival one afternoon and found him already supplied with valuable data for my quest. The next morning he drove me over to Centerville, my mother's old home, giving me the best part of a day for it, and advising routes, etc., for securing the information I desired at Ten-Mile and at Washington, Penn.

He gave me the names of some old-timers in the city who might be of service to me and I spent the rest of the day in conferring with them, and though one of them was a Millikin, made little headway. I spent the evening in sketching County histories which gave me additional needed data.

After a good night's rest I took a train for East Millsboro, about ten miles up the river, and went over by ferry to Millsboro proper on the west side, just missing a train going up to Clarksville, three miles away, where I understood the Millikins in whom I was interested, had lived. I asked the postmaster to advise me about conveyance, and he said, "There is an auto out there driven by a Doctor Day of Clarksville and you undoubtedly can ride with him." He very

graciously invited me to do so and after making three or four calls among the hills we sped off to Clarksville. On the way we were quite chummy and he told me that he had a relative by the name of Day living in Decatur to whom I was given a message. He took me to his home and I had a royal dinner served by his interesting wife.

He then sent me up street to interview a Reverend Dr. Cooper, who, he said, was the oldest patriarch in all that region and he was once pastor of the Millikin church, not there in Clarksville as I had been told, but a dozen miles away further up the creek at Clarkstown, now designated in the postal guide, however, as Ten-Mile. I soon was in a Ford with a sprinkle of rain increasing to a pour, winding up and down among and around the beautiful hills speedily enough for a Milburn electric driver.

Dr. Cooper had given me the names of some old people to see at Clarkstown (Ten-Mile) and also some helpful suggestions about my method of procedure. Just as we neared the town, I saw to the left a stately brick house that was evidently built over a hundred years ago, perhaps more. It was in good repair and had wholesome and attractive surroundings. I said to the driver that I would venture to say that that was the Millikin homestead. It was facing Ten-Mile creek, perhaps two hundred and fifty feet away. Driving down and over it, we turned to the right and stopped at a house of similar style and age.

On entering, I told the lady of the house of our mission and asked her if she could tell me where the Millikin homestead was. She replied that I had just passed it across the creek. I then asked her if she could tell me where I could get the records of the Pleasant Hill church, which was the Millikin church. She said that her husband was clerk of the session and that he had its complete records from the date of organization in 1832 up to the present time. It did not take me long to get them into my hands and to discover the names of Abel, James, and other Millikins, together with those of some of the MacFarlands on the list of members with the dates of membership, etc.

She gave me the name of William Evans, who is con-

nected with the MacFarland line, a couple of blocks away, who she said owns the old Millikin homestead and farm.

Before going, however, I went back to the Millikin home and made a sketch of the different floors and rooms which I will work up later along with the little sketch of the building from the outside. Suffice it to say now that there is a central hallway running through from the West to the East with a fine large room with a fireplace off on either side with counter-parts on the second floor above. I was greatly interested in the finish of the woodwork and the panels under the windows, together with the extremely attractive mantel piece on the south side of the living room, whose mantel rested on very small columns finished so nearly like those in the hallway in the Decatur homestead that I thought instantly that these were probably in his mind when approving the design for the latter. I was very much interested in the story and a half addition on the west accommodating the kitchen and a large sleeping room over it.

On reaching the Evans home I found him a very delightful old gentleman and received a most courteous welcome. He had bought the Millikin farm several years ago and was keeping it and several others nearby which he owned in fine condition. Mr. Millikin drove those flocks of sheep from this farm to Illinois. I had not seen many sheep about and asked him whether they had been discarded. He said, "Oh, no, there are a good many of them around here and I have two hundred grazing on that farm at times."

With him I went through the lists of members of the old church which had been carefully kept, and sketched the minutes from the beginning up to this date. I found that a great camp meeting revival, in which there were a hundred conversions, had been held in the grove on Abel Millikin's farm, the preachers being missionaries from the Cumberland Presbyterian church, with many of whose names I have been acquainted from my boyhood, Rev. A. M. Bryan, John Morgan, et al. being among them. That meeting was held in 1831, and another in the same place the following year, which resulted in a large number of additional conversions also. It also resulted in the formal organization of a large congre-

gation for those days and Abel Millikin was elected one of the elders. Occasionally the religious services were held in his home—an exact date given was January 22, 1833. The minutes showed that he represented the church in at least a dozen meetings of Presbytery and Synod, so he must have been a very prominent man in his home church, and also in the larger judicatures which he attended. The other elders elected were Abner Clark and James Evans. A new brick church building was soon after erected.

Our James and his sister, Nancy Millikin, were among those uniting with the church later. These records give many little side lights showing some of the problems which confronted those pioneers in their efforts to preserve the purity and efficiency of the congregation. There were some expulsions, among them being a Samuel Millikin admitted in 1834, against whom some serious charges were made, one of them being that he had unwarrantably slandered Abel Millikin. This action was taken May 27, 1843. Harrison Miller and Rebecca Whitely were suspended for immorality, others for betting on election, and some on "Common fame."

Among the dismissals I found the name of Abel Millikin, who had moved with his wife to Ohio for awhile but returned and in December, 1859, with a letter from the Hamilton Presbyterian Church was received into the Church membership again, together with his third wife. He was also reinstated in the eldership.

Among those serving this church as pastors were such familiar historical names as Milton Bird, A. M. Bryan, John Morgan, Phil Axtell, S. M. Aston, S. E. Hudson (1842) and LeRoy Woods (1840). On September 29, 1840, Margaret Millikin was received into the church; on September 16, 1861, John and Emily Millikin were also received from the Centerville Church. Rev. LeRoy Woods married Mrs. Taylor and myself, while S. E. Hudson had been our pastor for some time at our old home in Wenona, Ill. Rev. S. M. Aston was the father of Mrs. Millikin.

Mr. Evans showed me the original patent from the sovereign state of Pennsylvania (see copy on page 10). I tried to get an abstract from its issue down to the present time,

but he told me that it is not the custom to make abstracts in transferring lands in Pennsylvania even now. He said, however, that the coal had been sold under the land and that the coal company had demanded an abstract from the date of the patent and that he had a copy of this one which was in his strong box in a vault at Washington. He thought I could possibly get the succession of owners in the records of that transfer there, which however I was unable to do.

Though the land around Ten-Mile is very hilly and rolling, much of it is tillable; the principal products being wheat, corn, oats, clover, timothy and alfalfa. Practically all except the first is used for feeding, though some little is shipped away. Orchard fruits grow abundantly.

I learned from Mr. Evans that perhaps two years before a Colonel Bevans and his wife came there and made a good many inquiries about the Millikins and their properties, stating that he had married into the family and was personally interested. He was evidently kindly received and they had been expecting to hear from him again. He gave his home as Washington, D. C.

After a short speedy drive in another Ford, I took the train from Hackney Station, four miles away, and was soon in Washington, Pa., where I slept soundly thru the night in the new million dollar hotel. After breakfast I went over to the Washington Female Seminary, Mrs. James Millikin's alma mater. There stood the identical three-story and basement building, one hundred twenty-four feet long, which the school occupied as early as 1850. It was founded in 1835 Samuel MacFarland being a trustee. The Secretary kindly placed herself at my service and we soon found catalogs of 1851 and 1854, the former having the names of Sarah Millikin and Joanna MacFarland, and the latter of Anna B. Aston as graduates in those years respectively. No other information concerning them was available but I made a copy of the courses of study and the regulations governing the seminary at the time, from which I have quoted elsewhere.

Of course, I was shown through the plant and was much impressed with its spirit and atmosphere as well as the excellent work which they are now doing. The secretary was

extremely interested in the bits of life and the benefactions of Mr. and Mrs. Millikin, which I gave her, and asked for more details which she wished to print in the November issue of the Seminary monthly.

I then went over to the Washington and Jefferson College a few blocks away. In the early years Jefferson and Washington Colleges were separate institutions of learning located at Canonsburg and Washington respectively. In 1865 they were united after a very acrimonious contention on the part of some of the friends of the two colleges. The intense feeling then engendered has survived until the present day, so President Baker informed me, tho the modern generation has little sympathy with the antagonisms of the septuagenarians.

I was soon supplied with the precious catalogs of 1846-7 and 1847-8 in both of which I found the name of James Millikin, in the former as a student in the preparatory department, and in the latter as a junior, a dagger below indicating him as a special.

Each of the two colleges grew out of classical schools organized as early as 1781, and they already had a long list of distinguished presidents, professors and alumni, which has been steadily increasing since their union. In 1906 I had the pleasure of attending the quarter-centennial anniversary of the induction of its most distinguished President, Dr. James D. Moffatt, whose services did not end until eight years later. As the representative of the James Millikin University, I extended its greetings and explained its obligations to his alma mater for the vigorous young institution in the West which bears his name—tho Mr. Millikin had not given me a personal message, saying that no one there would remember him. Two white-haired old-timers among the alumni told me they thought they did, however.

On the advice of a Philadelphia friend I visited the fine Historical Society Building in that city, where some valuable records are kept that I had probably not found elsewhere. In one volume I found many abstracts of Washington County wills of the early days. The only thing of interest in it, however, was the name of Daniel McFarland attached to a will

as a witness bequeathing some property to the trustees of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Ten-Mile.

In another volume the records state that Colonel Daniel McFarland from Scotland, then still holding a commission in the Revolutionary army, had purchased 400 acres of land on Ten-Mile Creek. Another paragraph stated that William McFarland, son of the Colonel Daniel mentioned, was the father of James McFarland, who was the father of Judge N. C. McFarland of Topeka, Kansas. He had purchased that tract evidently in 1785.

This record states that the McFarlands were very prominent in that community out there, taking an active part in maintaining high ideals in business and social life. James, the father of William, served as Justice of the Peace and later as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Washington County. He is said to have influenced many people to settle their difficulties out of court, thus reducing costs and allaying animosities. Also that David Evans bought a farm of 399 acres next to the lands of Robert Bennett, James Millikin and Daniel McFarland as surveyed under date of June 20, 1785. These same records note that Rev. James McGready, Cumberland Presbyterian pioneer preacher in Washington County, was in missionary activities, especially on Ten-Mile Creek, holding camp meetings, probably on the farm of Abel Millikin mentioned elsewhere.

These camp meetings were accompanied with great excitement and attracted immense crowds. Wild rumors flew everywhere charging witchcraft. A certain magical powder was reported being used by the missionaries, which would arouse strange physical gyrations on the part of many individuals, so that the curious people avoided coming in personal contact with the ministers lest some of it might fall on them producing similar effects.

This record also mentions the arrival and admittance to Presbytery from Tennessee, of Rev. Samuel M. Aston, "a famous Cumberland Presbyterian preacher there." He was admitted to the First Presbytery constituted in May, 1832. P. H. Crider and Azel Freeman also became members of the same Presbytery, the latter afterwards becoming the first

President of Lincoln University in Illinois, and the former pastor of the Mt. Zion, Illinois, church. The paragraph states that J. S. Keener was admitted as a licentiate. He came to Illinois in the latter part of the last century and was active in promoting the establishment of the James Millikin University. He afterwards located in Decatur and engaged in the insurance business.

The old country methods of punishment were in vogue in those days in that part of Pennsylvania, including the stocks, ducking stools, pillory, etc., even after the Revolution. Money was greatly depreciated; Andrew Heath bought $2000 Continental money for $307 in coin. Ten-Mile Creek, known also as McFarland Fork, empties into the Monongahela River at Millsboro. The hills on either side are of a rolling character and are cultivated to the tops. Thousands of sheep grazed among them. Washington was the largest wool-growing County in the State and second in the quality of its wool. Limestone and bituminous coal were found along many streams. These people were faithful in keeping their religious vows with great solemnity large numbers of Presbyterians being among them.

Ten-Mile village was founded by Dr. J. C. Millikin. Between 1770 and 1790 much land was patented in that locality by James Millikin, Abel McFarland, and others.

In the Boston Public Library I found a large and most complete volume on the whole Millikin tribe for some four hundred years. It was compiled by The Rev. Gideon Tibbetts Ridlon of Kizar Falls, Maine, and published by The Journal Press, Lewiston, Me., in 1907. It contains a several page biography with portrait and residence of our James Millikin XI. The data was evidently given by him and Mrs. Millikin, and ought to be reliable. A copy of it is said to have been in the Millikin library, but I was unable to find it after much inquiry and correspondence. I have, however, since my return, found it in a private home in Decatur and it will be placed in the Art Institute.

It was while in Washington College, that our James Millikin became interested in the attractive stories of the great opportunities in the middle West, especially in Indiana and

Illinois. He succeeded in convincing his father that they promised such large returns on investments that he consented to accompany him in the summer of 1849—the two driving a flock of sheep into Indiana, which they soon sold at a good profit.

Tho pleased with Crawfordsville, he drove the next flock in the Spring of 1850 to Danville, Illinois, where the market was better, bringing a much larger profit.

After spending the winter in Wabash College, as elsewhere stated, he again, and for several years, returned to Pennsylvania for more sheep, disposing of them at still greater advantage to the Western farmers. He bought and traded in cattle also, renting tracts of grazing land and selling his stock at profitable advances as they developed. His large flocks and herds gave him great prominence as a breeder of fine stock. He won six silver medal spoons which bear the stamp of the "Illinois State Fair 1857." Being a smart trader, and a man of vision, he was quick in seeing a future for Decatur, and soon after arriving here, purchased a tract of land west of Pine Street and North of Main, extending west to what is now North Oakland Street. The fine old Millikin home, now the Art Institute, was erected on part of it in 1875.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Millikin journeyed to Iowa in a buggy, where in 1853, he had purchased a large tract of Government land, some thousands of acres, near Davenport, at one dollar per acre. Miss Kennedy writes:

> "Many who knew Mrs. Millikin will recall her habit of counting objects that interested her. In this Iowa trip the habit proved to be of value. A handkerchief tied to a spoke of a front wheel as they rode from corner to corner of their broad acres, was counted in its revolutions by her which was the means of testing approximately the correctness of the measurements of the original surveys. Mr. Millikin, with great pride, told me of this ingenuity and sagacity of his wife."

When Mr. Millikin moved to Decatur in 1856, he still had large investments in land and stock, but disposed of most of them in the next three years, including a valuable

tract adjoining Bement, which the Wabash Railway wanted for its use. He is reported to have cleaned up approximately seventy-five thousand dollars, and was hesitating what to do next when he was invited to go into the banking business, which he did in 1860 under the name "James Millikin, Banker."

As we reflect on the events in the life of this shepherd boy in his several trips to Illinois, driving flocks of sheep from his beloved hills in the land of his birth to what later became his home in the great West, we cannot but admire the courage and perseverance required in the long and tiresome journeys through a sparsely settled country, overcoming obstacles in the way of newly-blazed roads, unbridged streams and unfriendly people, upon whom he had to depend for forage and grazing, to say nothing of the watchful and sympathetic care required for the maintenance of the health of his sheep we have an assuring prophecy of success in a larger life later on.

Only twenty years of age he starts on his first trip, little acquainted with the ways of the world outside his narrow home environments, he had vision and courage enough to induce his father to accompany him on his first trip, and then as a stranger in less than half a dozen years, trading with all classes of dealers, stock men and speculators, to amass a surprising surplus as the foundation for a princely fortune, reveals ability unusual and exceptional, his Scotch ancestry asserting itself thru it all.

One cannot but wonder whether as he trudged along by day or in his vigils and dreams by night he was not frequently recalling his resolution on the campus at Washington College, and saw as the climax of all his labors and struggles, their fruition in a great institution in Oakland Park.

It has not been my purpose to enter into details of Mr. Millikin's business career to any particular extent, tho some of them appear along with a few leading events of his life mentioned later in connection with those of a public nature.

Before going to Florida for his annual Winter's outing on January 7, 1909, Mr. Millikin, as was his custom, spent several days in adjusting his business affairs, tho he did not mention any premonition of a failure to return; indeed, his

associates thought he was looking better than usual as the open winter had allowed him more out-door exercise than for some years.

One evening shortly before he and Mrs. Millikin left, Dr. J. N. Randall, a long time intimate friend, visited them in their home and talked over their plans for the trip, Mr. Millikin stating that he was an old man and was skeptical of the wisdom of going south at that time, but remarked that he would at least avoid the rigor of the Winter weather and minimize the risk of taking cold that might prove serious.

He expressed a desire for the Doctor to accompany them, but that was practically impossible, tho Mrs. Millikin joined in the request also, repeating the statement that both of them were old enough to need him.

I called at his office to express the hope that they would have an enjoyable winter and to ask him whether he had a parting message for me, but he said with evident weariness that there was nothing special.

It had been the custom of Mrs. Taylor and myself to take or send a basket of flowers to the train as they left, but I was very busy down town and overlooked it that morning until practically train time, when I rushed to the florist for one and asked the bank custodian to run down with it. He found the train just starting, but succeeded in placing it in their hands with our word of cheer. Little did we realize that he would never return. A year or so afterwards Mrs. Millikin spoke of our custom and said, feelingly, "You never forget, do you?"

The first intimation of Mr. Millikin's serious illness was given in a telegram dated February 25, 1909, to Mr. O. B. Gorin, Vice-President of the bank, asking him to come to Orlando, the Millikin's Florida Winter home, at once. He arrived there promptly but found his long-time fast friend and partner practically unconscious and that the physicians thought it unwise to arouse him, as his going was but a few hours away and it might worry him.

The end came at 11 a. m., March 2, 1909, as announced in a telegram to the bank from Mr. Gorin. The Decatur Daily Review, having anticipated the announcement by pre-

paring much data concerning his life which, together with interviews with some University folk and leading citizens, filled nearly two pages in its afternoon edition. The anxiety of the preceding hours now gave place to deep gloom which pervaded the city and county. All classes of people gathered in little groups expressing their sorrow and exalting his virtues and his services to the community.

Heading the feeling and appreciative expressions printed in the Review, was one from the University voiced by its president:

> "We are almost too overwhelmed to speak. Mr. Millikin's character is well expressed in his achievements and generous benefactions. Those who were near to him have always been profoundly impressed with his high ideals and unswerving devotion to them. He was a man of tender sympathies. He was ever ready to respond to appeals in time of need.
>
> "Our loss is irreparable. A gloom fills every class room. All feel that a personal friend has gone."

Speaking more at length to the Daily Herald reporter in the evening, President Taylor paid the following tribute, which appeared in its morning edition:

> "During the summer of 1901 Mr. Millikin, Mr. Loeb, chairman of our building committee, and myself visited a number of institutions of learning in the East for the purpose of inspecting their plants and deciding upon types of buildings for the University. This association with Mr. Millikin gave me an insight into his character that helped me immeasurably in planning for the University's upbuilding. Our conversations covered all phases of its aims, scope, organization and management. They revealed a knowledge of the problems involved and a purpose so fixed that I was at once convinced that an advanced and aggressive policy would have at all times his heartiest support. His keen interest in the general scheme of the organization of the college was always most refreshing and encouraging.
>
> "His sane conception of what a modern college should be has been worth as much in its development as the generous financial provision which he made for it. He took the same interest in its details that he took in the great business enterprises with which he was connected and its business affairs have been characterized by the same admirable

policy that has given them such high standing in the commercial world. Though he had given so much of his time and energy to his business interests, he was unusually well informed on many subjects in which scholars and men of leisure only are supposed to be interested. This knowledge made him a delightful conversationalist on a variety of themes. While he was a man of positive convictions, he was in no sense narrow-minded and illiberal. On the contrary he admired independence of thought and commended merit wherever found. He detested sham and appreciated worth. His wishes concerning the University's policy were expressed in my address at its opening exercises.

"Though exacting and business-like in everything, he was filled with the spirit of the true philanthropist and his benefactions express the bent of his sympathies and the forethought he exercised in bestowing them. This community and the church to whose supervision he entrusts this institution will ever have perpetual cause to revere his memory and to be grateful for its spirit and influence in the world."

It also contained the following item:

"As a coincident in the death of Mr. Millikin is related by students of the University. At chapel services yesterday morning at 10 o'clock President Taylor offered a fervent prayer for the recovery of the man who made the university possible. Inasmuch as there is a difference of one hour between the time at Orlando and Decatur, Mr. Millikin was probably breathing his last as the President was praying for the recovery of the founder of the school."

Other highly appreciative expressions from leading citizens were also published in the dailies from which we quote the following:

B. O. McReynolds of the National Bank of Decatur—"Mr. Millikin I have known in a business way and personally most intimately. I have known in him one of the best business men in the county and the most public-spirited citizen Decatur has ever had. No one can take his place. The loss is public and huge. In business Mr. Millikin's intuition was wonderful. He knew immediately what attitude to take in a deal or undertaking. He made business here. His influence on the city was inestimable. He was sagacious, honest, broad."

H. B. Wilson, Superintendent of Schools—"It was not my good fortune to know Mr. Millikin well, partly because of my short residence here. But always when I have met

him he has been most cordial and courteous. I have found that he is universally admired and respected. I have seen his influence on the city and vicinity. He surely endeared himself to the citizens of Decatur as no other man has had opportunity to do.

J. A. Corbett of the Citizens' National Bank—"No man here has ever had such an influence for good in the community as Mr. Millikin. No man is more generally admired or respected. Out of respect to him every business house should close during his funeral. Let the wheels stop for that time. Let Decatur make the occasion a memorable one and worthy of the man himself."

Lowber Burrows, the banker, who was here when Mr. Millikin came to town, said:

"I have known him personally and intimately. Always I have respected and admired him as a man of great sagacity and business keenness."

A. G. Webber, friend and confidential adviser of Mr. Millikin: "He was a man of superior judgment, shrewd and far-seeing. He possessed a strong individuality of character. There was nothing of the uncertain or undecided in his make-up.

"He was a plain and unassuming man of the people, honest and fearless, a man of power and of action.

"There was a strong bond of friendship and loyalty between Mr. Millikin and his friends. He never forsook a friend in trouble.

"He was a public-spirited citizen who loved the people, of which he left great monuments to his glory."

An evening telegram from Mr. Gorin to the University was received as follows:

"Funeral from the University on Saturday. Remains lie in state there from Friday noon. Mrs. Millikin remains here."

Later word came saying the body would arrive on Friday at 11:40 A. M.

Both papers gave much data concerning Mr. Millikin's life and also liberal space to each additional day's doings, using large cuts of Mr. Millikin, of the handsome bank building, the University group, the homestead, the vast throng headed by Mr. Millikin, the University officials, and President Roosevelt for his dedicatory address at the buildings on March 13, 1903; the student and faculty escort with over a thousand

citizens in silent waiting at the Wabash depot for the arrival of Mr. Millikin's body, the slow and solemn march thru the thickly lined streets, the students with uncovered heads passing the bank building, the entrance of the procession to the University tower, the lavish display of floral tributes in the lobby and in the auditorium, and the slow and silent march out again, bearing the casket of the beloved founder out and on to its final resting place in Greenwood Cemetery. Decatur has paid no such honors to any other man and whatever lack there may have been before in showing appreciation was surely many times more than atoned for in those generously affectionate tributes of his fellow citizens.

In the midst of it all I could but recall his insistent and repeated plaint that in spite of his large contributions to the up-building of his adopted city, few people seemed to have any appreciation of it. Tho I protested to the contrary, I knew that he was hungry for an expression of it in a more tangible way. Perhaps, after all, he may have seen those heart-felt obsequies then and was satisfied!

But to resume the narrative, we quote further from the Decatur Review:

> "Over 1,500 people were at the Wabash station Friday morning when the Wabash Continental Limited from St. Louis pulled in with the body of James Millikin aboard, among them being many of the prominent citizens of Decatur.
>
> "When the train pulled in, at 11:15 a. m., there was a simultaneous surge of the crowd towards the platform, which was soon congested to such an extent that it was with difficulty that the Millikin students, marching in two lines, could reach the truck on which the red cedar box containing the coffin had been unloaded.
>
> "The coffin was removed from the box and placed in the hearse, while many of those in the crowd stood with uncovered heads. Then with the students, marching in two lines ahead as an escort, the hearse set off on its way to the James Millikin University.
>
> "The streets were lined with eager spectators, all anxious to get a glimpse of the hearse. From every window peered many faces, while business was abandoned until the procession passed by.

"Old-time friends of the deceased who came to the depot were taken to the University in carriages.

"One hundred men students of the university marched in line of twos from the depot to the university.

"Director Kaeuper commanded them. His aides were Otto R. Kyle, Clarence Dowell, Guy Rodgers and Louis Hull. They acted as guides to the line. William Bell and Ansel Magill led.

"Roy Price drummed, and the muffled beats were heard by many before the procession came in sight.

"Walking beside the hearse were the six university stuents chosen to carry the body and serve as pallbearers until it should be laid in state. They were: Clifford Miller, Wesley Bone, Lloyd Wallace, Ray Ryan, Paul Willite and Cecil Cox.

"It was an effective tribute to the dead man that so many hundreds of citizens stood with hats off as his body was borne by.

"As the line approached the Millikin bank the students marched by the spot that had known Mr. Millikin's greatest business activities, escorting him past for the last time, with heads uncovered. The same courtesy was observed at the Millikin residence, and again at the University."

The University authorities had appointed several committees to act for them in the reception of Mr. Millikin's body and in organizing necessary details in the conduct of the funeral exercises at the auditorium.

Professors W. H. Varnum, Binney Gunnison, M. Elizabeth Colegrove and E. Louise Guernsey constituted the committee on decorations. Black crepe, smilax, calla lilies and palms, two massive galax leaf wreaths four feet in diameter relieved by violets and ferns were used in the lobby entrance and on to the auditorium doors. The white marble pillars were not draped, tho they were wound in spiral strands of smilax, the whole making a most dignified and artistic setting for the reception of the casket where it was to lie in state until the exercises on Saturday afternoon.

On its arrival at high noon on Friday, the large and exquisite blanket of white calla lilies from the Students Committee, Carlton Mattes, Ralph Jones, Louise Stevenson, Mary Louise Elder and William H. Bell, which was later to be placed on it when lowered to its final resting place, was

lightly laid over the lower part of the casket, the whole effect being unusually quieting and restful.

During Friday afternoon and evening and Saturday forenoon thousands of people silently filed past to look upon the face of the friend so long a familiar and dominant figure in the city's life. A score of children from the Anna B. Millikin Home escorted by the superintendent, wept feelingly as they lingered a moment at the bier, a most touching and meaningful incident.

At the closing hour on Thursday afternoon, the Millikin National Bank and the Union Iron Works locked their doors not to be opened again until Monday morning.

As it was not found feasible to make a death mask, careful measurements were made and deposited in the vault of the University for the future use as needed. As there are several good photographs and an excellent oil painting of Mr. Millikin in the city, it was thought that a good sculptor would be able to fashion a satisfactory bust when desired without the mask.

Some relatives from abroad arrived during Friday, among them Mr. Millikin's cousin, Joan M. Kennedy, of Hamilton, Ohio; his nephew, James Millikin McFarland, Topeka, Kansas; and a niece, Mrs. Lizzie Hannah, of Oak Park, Illinois. Many personal and business friends from out of town were also present.

Intimate friends from various organizations served as guards of honor and watchers in relays over the casket thru the night and until the hour arrived for the funeral on Saturday. A member of the city police force was there thru the entire time also.

We quote from the Decatur Herald of March 7:

> "With impressive services the funeral of James Millikin, Decatur's greatest financier and philanthropist, was held from the crowded Assembly Hall of the James Millikin University at 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon. One thousand people thronged the chapel, every seat being occupied, while many, eager to get a glimpse of the services, crowded around the side walls and extended almost the entire width of the lobby outside its entrance doors.

"The front of the stage was banked with flowers including large wreaths of violets, roses, carnations, and galax leaves, and large bouquets of calla lilies. Potted palms were placed at intervals at the foot of the stage. Mr. Millikin's box on the east side of the chapel was hung in black crepe and decorated with palms and a bunch of white carnations. The chair which used to be occupied by Mr. Millikin when he was present at some function held in the hall, was covered with black crepe. Mrs. Millikin's vacant chair stood beside it.

"The casket was placed directly in front of the rostrum at 2:30 o'clock, the services beginning promptly at that hour. As a prelude to the services, Professor Herman H. Kaeupper played softly Chopin's funeral march behind the scenes stilling the audience into reverent silence. Soon after the casket was in its place, Rev. Dr. W. H. Penhallegon, Rev. N. M. Baker, Dr. A. R. Taylor and the quartet consisting of Mrs. Montgomery Nicholson, Miss Theckla Leafbourg, Carl Heiby and A. E. Lindamood, took their places on the platform. As the closing tones of the funeral march died away, the quartet sang most beautifully 'Lead Kindly Light,' the hymn used universally on such occasions. Dr. Penhallegon and the quartet followed with the antiphonal service, the minister reading the sacred words and the choir chanting the responses.

"Rev. N. M. Baker then offered up a fervent prayer full of thanksgiving for the opportunity of having known and been associated with Mr. Millikin.

"The funeral address delivered by Dr. Penhallegon of the First Presbyterian church, was a fitting eulogy to the character and personality of Decatur's foremost citizen. Dr. Penhallegon spoke eloquently of this large hearted man who had accumulated so much wealth only to use it for noble purposes.

"A brief prayer was then offered by President Taylor who invoked special blessings on the sorrow stricken wife in the far Southland unable to attend the last rites over her dead. With the chanting of a few verses by the choir the impressive service was at an end.

"Slowly and reverently the great throng of students of the University and the friends of the dead man filed out of the hall to take their places in the procession to the cemetery. The senior class girls for whom seats had been reserved in the auditorium marched one by one by the casket each receiving an armful of the floral tributes to bear to the last resting place of the dead philanthropist.

"Then with measured tread the pallbearers bore the

casket down the main walk between the two lines of people including the escort of students, to where the hearse was waiting. At the command of Mr. Kaeuper the student escort, which on the day before had escorted the body from the station to the University, marched to the head of the procession to lead the way to Greenwood cemetery where the temporary interment was made. A large number of men from the city also fell in line and marched to the muffled drum beats.

"The funeral cortege was unquestionably the largest and most elaborate ever seen in Decatur. There were 32 carriages in line, bearing the pallbearers, relatives, members of the university faculty and intimate friends of Mr. Millikin. All along the way the streets were lined with people waiting to catch the last glimpse of the casket that contained all that was mortal of the city's greatest citizen. At the transfer house stood nearly 3,000 people, not from morbid curiosity but because of the reverence and love they felt toward their neighbor.

"Including those who came in the carriages about 400 gathered at the cemetery, the student escort still in the lead, were drawn up several rows deep. They all stood with uncovered heads while the casket was placed in its resting place.

"The quartet sang two verses of "Abide With Me" followed by the benediction by Dr. Penhallegon.

"In Dr. Penhallegon's eloquent eulogy he said: 'No man is explicable, apart from his ancestors, we are told. I hazard nothing in saying that Mr. Millikin was fortunately born—that he came from parents of unusual strength of mind and heart and inherited from them some of those traits which made him the strong man he was.

"'A great student of the immortal bard of Avon, he spent several days at Stratford, looking for some unmistakable proof of the poet's home life and identity. Little was found to satisfy or compensate. At last he said to an old resident, 'Is there no descendent of William Shakespeare in this town?' He was told that there was a descendent of Shakespeare, coming in the line of his own sister. It was a boy in the day school a lad among a common lot of lads. The gentleman went to the school and inquired of the teacher if such was the fact. The teacher confirmed the rumor and agreed to call the class of which the boy was a member. This was done and in a moment the man who had given years and years to the study of Shakespeare said: 'This is the boy, I know him.'

FUNERAL CORTEGE LEAVING UNIVERSITY

"'The teacher asked how he could tell. The man replied, 'I know him by the peculiar drooping eyes and the strong forehead. There is no mistake. I know he is a descendant of Shakespeare.'

"Many of those who heard the prayer of Rev. Nathan M. Baker at the funeral of the late James Millikin thought it the most remarkable they had ever listened to. It was to be regretted that this tribute was not taken down verbatim and preserved as an example of a beautiful funeral prayer.

"Mr. Baker was an old friend of Mr. Millikin's. His was a touching figure as he stood, aged and patriarchal, on the platform above the dead body of the man he had known so well. The words he spoke were simple, but fervent, and in themselves a magnificent eulogy to the dead man.

"Although deeply moved Mr. Baker's voice was strong and carried well except in the part where he prayed fervently for the absent widow. His diction and expression was fine and his thoughts throughout worthy and noble."

The following resolutions were adopted by the Board of Managers:

"Mr. Millikin's benefactions have been accompanied by an abiding interest in all that pertains to the upbuilding and the development of this institution and his high ideals of its mission and possibilities have ever inspired us to increased zeal in the execution of the great trust imposed upon us. His frequent counsels have been of great value to us in the solving of important questions concerning its general policy and management, and have given us courage in planning for larger things from year to year.

"It has ever been our pleasure to co-operate with him in the observance of the same conservative method in the conduct of the business affairs of the college that have characterized his management of the various enterprises with which he has been connected, always having assurance of their wisdom and safety.

"Our association with him during these years has confirmed our faith in his integrity of character, his high conceptions of manhood and womanhood, his charity for the erring, his devotion to the fundamental principles upon which rest the precious heritages of our modern civilization, and his sympathy for struggling humanity everywhere.

"He was a model citizen, taking a deep interest in all movements for the enlargement of the material enterprises of the community as well as for purifying the moral atmosphere and making the city a wholesome place for all

classes of people. To the attainment of these ends he was always liberal of his time and means and there is hardly any beneficent public enterprise that has contributed to the advancement of the higher interests of Decatur and Macon county for the past half century that has not had his hearty encouragement and support, his crowning munificence being the educational institution which bears his name.

"His life will ever prove a quickening stimulus to mankind wherever the story of his struggles and attainments, his virtues and his benefactions are told and this monument, consecrated to the education of ambitious youth, will be a perennial blessing through the centuries to come.

"To his devoted wife, our friend, now so sorely bereft of his companionship and sympathy we tender the assurance of our deep sense of a common loss and of our heartfelt sympathy in this hour of her great bereavement. That she may find solace in the support that always comes from the All-loving Father to those who put their trust in Him is our earnest prayer.

"It is hereby ordered that the foregoing expression of esteem and affection for our departed friend be spread upon the minutes of this Board and that a copy of the same be forwarded to Mrs. Millikin."

For the Board of Managers of the Decatur College and Industrial School.

A. R. Taylor,
S. E. McClelland,
J. D. Rogers,
Committee.

The students' resolutions are as follows:

"In the death of our esteemed benefactor and friend, James Millikin, we, the students of the James Millikin University, recipients of his favor, experience a heart-felt personal loss;

"For it is through his warm sympathy and unselfish devotion to young men and women that we now enjoy in so full a measure the high privilege of educational training tending to perfect us in knowledge and to make us more useful in the world. And this oft-expressed solicitude for the welfare of the students of this institution in particular has led us long since to look to him with affectionate gratitude.

"Further, as an example of simple, sincere, honest, vigorous, and unselfish manhood, zealous in promoting the right and quick to meet the wrong, we have realized in him

an ideal, and we pray that we may be better men and women because of the life he lived.

"May this bear to the bereaved wife our deepest sympathy in this hour of sorrow."

For the students:

Fred T. McGee,
John R. Lyons,
Arthur Niedemeyer,
Committee.

Hugh Crea, his corporation lawyer, once said:

"I think that Mr. Millikin is the best fitted for banking in a place the size of Decatur of any man you will find in the country. There has been no better judge of credits; he knows all these people and has made a study of their affairs; he is able to talk to them about matters in which they are interested; in addition to all that he is a good judge of men."

Another citizen said of him:

"I think Mr. Millikin is easily the best 'mixer' in Macon county. And the best of it is he does his work so quietly that it is often not even suspected that he is at it. He will meet you and in a quiet way talk with you on a matter that interests you very much; you will note also that he talks well on the subject. Perhaps he will not use many words, but everything he says will have the impress of sound sense. We talk of some of our politicians being 'mixers'; not the best of them was ever able to get half as close to a man as Mr. Millikin."

"Mr. Millikin was proud of the record made by his bank, that it never had refused to pay on demand to any man who had a deposit. In the last months of 1907 banks in all parts of the country were suspending cash payments; they were giving clearing house certificates and other paper forms that were not exactly money.

"He did not wish to resort to that. He was getting to be an old man and never in his life up to that time had he refused to pay out the cash. He determined not to break that record, but he went to Indianapolis and bought $200,000 in currency, paying a handsome premium for it. He did not need the money, as it turned out, but he was ready for them if they had asked for it; he fixed himself to keep clear that record of which he was proud."

The personal character of Mr. Millikin is easily discovered in large measure by his accomplishments in the various

enterprises launched by him and thru which he accumulated his fortune. Vision and courage from his boyhood dominated all his actions, culminating in the establishment of the University; skill in reading men, enabling him to select capable and trustworthy associates in business and to discriminate wisely in furnishing funds to assist others to start or enlarge their business; integrity and honesty in his dealings with his fellow-men; sympathetic interest in everything pertaining to the development of a better community life and generous in his contributions to every worthy enterprise; exacting in his dealings, large and small, tho liberal in concessions to deserving men; quite set in his ethical and religious ideals, a characteristic of his heritage, but liberal in his attitude toward those whose creeds differed from his own; patient with down-and-out people who were sincerely trying to recover, yet slow in forgetting evidently intended slights and offenses; courteous and companionable in his intercourse with people, making friends easily whose confidence in his ability and honesty enabled him to build up the greatest banking business in Illinois outside of Chicago.

He was quickly affected by suffering and its alleviation gave him pleasure. He was jealous of his good name and resented suggested selfish motives prompting his actions, especially in community affairs, and was keenly aroused by subtle insinuations.

On the other hand, he was quite sensitive to appreciation and fretted if it did not come. One day a local student came into his office and warmly thanked him for establishing a College in Decatur, as it enabled him to secure a collegiate education which would have been impossible otherwise. Mr. Millikin was moved to tears, as he was also on the opening day of the institution in September, 1903—when over 500 eager young men and women rose in our first assembly announcing their intention to enroll in its classes. He was much better educated than most business men, few of them being so well versed in current affairs and in the progress of science and invention at home and abroad.

I have used the word patience in speaking of his personal character, but those who knew him in the last half dozen

years of his life are aware of the effect of his failing health upon its tone, and his impatience under circumstances that formerly disturbed him very little, doubtless causing him as much annoyance as anyone else. Memory, or the lack of it, played its part as it does with other mortals, even with those of such an iron will as carried him so successfully thru a long and busy life.

He was industrious and untiring in everything he undertook, having a keenness of insight rarely excelled. His confidence in his own judgment about business matters was amazing to his friends and associates.

The episode of the run on the Millikin Bank is introduced here as illustrative of his astute generalship in carrying the bank through the critical financial panic of 1878. The Decatur Review says that "it was so well managed that it could scarcely be called a run, and that it was the most important event in Mr. Millikin's business career. It made him the leading banker in the city, the leading country banker in Illinois."

He recited the incident to me one day, which was in brief as follows: A run had begun on the other banks and Mr. Millikin had a tip or a suspicion that one would start on his bank very soon. He quickly laid his plans and asked Orlando Powers, a large land owner and a depositor with him, to come at once from Jacksonville for a conference.

Perhaps half a dozen men gathered at the office of Hugh Crea, his attorney, that night and the securities of the bank were carefully inspected, showing its absolute solvency, with an ample margin in excess of available assets. Anticipating such a situation, big bunches of currency had been called in from Springfield and Chicago, one lot of $50,000 having been received that night and another coming the following night.

A great many farmers were depositors and their confidence in the bank's soundness and in Mr. Millikin was not easily shaken. However, as the run began the next morning many of them caught the fever and began to check out also. The excitement increasing, it soon became evident that only a master move could prevent a catastrophe.

As agreed at the conference, Orlando Powers and Doctor Ira Barnes were in the bank lobby quietly passing around chatting with the callers and by their actions showing little or no concern about what was taking place. Gradually, however, they showed increasing interest, and as a depositor would draw his funds, Mr. Powers would say: "I have absolute confidence in this bank and would like to borrow your money, giving my personal note for it." Knowing Mr. Powers' extensive land and other holdings, the bargain was quickly made and Mr. Powers would go at once to the window and deposit the money to his own account. Dr. Barnes was pursuing the same course. This had not been going long until, encouraged by their action, more money was going in than was being drawn out, and the danger was over.

The merchants and other business men in the city had been given ample assurance early in the forenoon that the bank was solvent and many of them borrowed the money drawn out by their patrons and deposited it there along with the proceeds of their cash sales, thus assisting in tiding over that feverish day and re-establishing general confidence among all classes of people.

Probably few men were more cool and self-possessed on that day than the president of the Millikin Bank himself.

Mr. Millikin's larger contributions to various enterprises in the community were approximately as follows:

The James Millikin University, including the $50,000 to Lincoln College and Oakland Park proper	$500,000
Anna B. Millikin Home, including annual allowance for maintenance and the site for same estimated.	25,000
The Young Men's Christian Association building	5,000
The Young Women's Christian Association building	500
The First Presbyterian Church building	5,000
The Cumberland Presbyterian Church	2,200
Various other churches in the county, about	10,000
	$547.700

This summary does not of course include a multiplicity of smaller contributions to philanthropic and civic enterprises of various kinds to which he was always a dependable giver.

In speaking of Mr. Millikin's published benefactions, many long-time residents also recalled other ways in which he should be regarded as benefactor to the city. Among them were the following:

In the large number of the then present successful business men whom he had aided in getting a start and assisted in tiding over critical times in their various enterprises;

In the personal interest which he took in advising and encouraging prospective investors in the city and in assisting them in forming profitable alliances in a business way;

In the development of the leading down-state bank in Illinois with all that means as a money center in Decatur;

In starting the pace for the construction of an unusually fine type of office buildings in the erection of the elegant seven story structure on North Water and Main;

In the salvaging of the Union Iron Works at a time of dire distress and organizing an energetic corps of men thru whom he made it one of the best manufacturing establishments in the city.

In the active participation in the various aggressive movements to make Decatur a forward looking, modern municipality.

Had he done no more than these things he would ever be known in the city's annals as one of the generous benefactors deserving high honor.

Add now to the large benefactions named above, those contributions made by the Trustees of the Estate in accord with the provisions of his will and the indebtedness of the people of this locality is easily recognized as far above that of any other man or any several men that might be named, in the city.

Mr. Millikin's will provided that his estate should be administered by five Trustees, Mrs. Anna B. Millikin, Dr. S. E. McClelland, O. B. Gorin, J. M. Brownback and S. E. Walker, the income from which should be used for educational and charitable purposes in the city of Decatur at their discretion, and specified certain conditions on which it might be given to the Decatur College of the James Millikin University.

MR. MILLIKIN AT 35

It also provided that the said trustees should manage the properties, personal and real, at their discretion, and gave them the power to dispose of the same and distribute the proceeds to the interests above named and under conditions satisfactory to them.

Since Mr. Millikin's death they have distributed the following amounts to institutions named:

The James Millikin University, including buildings, equipment, current expenses and endowment	$1,004,857.37
Decatur and Macon County Hospital Wing	216,906.26
Welfare Home	12,050.00
Anna B. Millikin Home	34,092.01
Art Institute	15,500.00
Day Nursery	5,500.00
	$1,288,905.64

As the assets of the Millikin Estate originally were appraised at about a million and a quarter dollars, this summary shows that the amount assigned to date, April 1, 1926, equals it, leaving its present value practically the same as the original amount, or an average net return of about 5.6 per cent per annum on same,—certainly a significant showing in view of the fact that a large sum of money was expended on the enlargement and additional equipment of the bank and Union Iron Works buildings, etc.

On the death of Mrs. Millikin, Dr. W. H. Penhallegon was appointed as her successor. That the affairs of the estate have been wisely administered is easily seen in the large sums contributed to the institutions named above and conclusively demonstrates that the various properties placed in their hands have been disposed of profitably or greatly improved and their value enhanced to a high degree by them. The business of the bank and of the Union Iron Works has been most notably increased. The Millikin Trust Co., organized in 1915 as an auxiliary of the Millikin Bank, is one of the most substantial and prosperous in central Illinois.

At his death the surplus profits and capital stock of the bank was $450,000 and its deposits about $4,500,000. Its

deposits at this time amount to $7,801,200.82. Its capital stock is $500,000.00, surplus and profits $327,944.67, National Bank Circulation $490,000.00—making a total of $9,119,145.49. As the estate owns more than one-half interest in it, its management, being practically in the hands of the officers of the bank, it has been a quasi-public institution with the consequent good will and sympathetic interest of the whole community in its affairs.

It now has 15,834 depositors, a most remarkable showing for a down-state institution and a fine compliment to its managers, the trustees of his estate.

In this quarter-centennial year of Millikin University, occurs the sixty-sixth anniversary of the opening of the successor of the bankrupt Railroad Bank in its building on Merchant Street.

In 1863, J. Q. A. Odor became his partner, but soon retired. In 1865, Jerome R. Gorin became his popular and efficient associate, the title of the firm being J. Millikin & Co. He withdrew in 1881, his son, Orville B. Gorin, becoming a partner, the name remaining unchanged until 1897, when it was incorporated as The Millikin National Bank and was designated as a U. S. Depository in 1901.

The policy of Mr. Millikin was always conservative, and the enforced suspension or failure of hundreds of other banks in the country at various times, as already stated, has found his bank sufficiently stable to escape even temporary closing of its doors, tho there were occasions when only the confidence of its patrons saved a dangerous run.

The immediate associates of Mr. Millikin in the management of the bank for many years and at the time of his death were Orville B. Gorin, vice-president, now president, and Joseph M. Brownback, cashier, Smith E. Walker, assistant cashier, and Guy P. Lewis, second assistant cashier, each of whom stepped up one notch at once.

Mr. O. B. Gorin has been in continuous service over sixty years, filling every position in the bank from that of errand boy to president. For a large part of the decade preceding Mr. Millikin's death, he was practically its executive head,

hence there was hardly a ripple in the continuity and policy of the management.

The entrance of Dr. Silas E. McClelland to the chairmanship of the estate trustees rather confirmed it, for he naturally deferred to the views and judgment of his associates in its administration and in managerial details.

In speaking of the factors conspiring to build up such a surprising banking business in so small a city, Mr. J. P. Gorin in "Fifty Years of Banking," says:

> "But there is a reason for everything and the seeker for the causes of this unusual success, while he may discover nothing wonderful, will find much that is admirable and worthy of emulation in both the character and the methods of the man who founded the bank and in the men who helped him build it up.
>
> "The dominating characteristics of James Millikin were honesty, intelligence, industry and prudence, with broad benevolence underlying all. And it is a mistaken idea, if such a notion exists, that his benevolence was almost wholly general and seldom shown in individual cases. But, while we know that in his personal capacity he helped numerous persons to whom he could not lend the bank's funds, it is as a banker we wish now to consider him.
>
> "From first to last he rang clear and true in answer to the prime question every careful would-be depositor silently asks in his heart of a banker: 'Is he honest?' There was never a doubt of this at any time in his career. The next question: 'Has he the requisite business sagacity? The necessary prudence and conservativeness? The sound, true judgment of men and affairs that a banker must have to succeed?' were all answered, year after year, with increasing emphasis in the affirmative. Not in a day, nor a year, nor a decade, did he build to the top his reputation as a banker; but in a half century. And at no time in all these years did he lose the confidence of those who entrusted their money to his care."
>
> "But this bank's success was not achieved by James Millikin alone and unaided; and he would have been the last to claim or to think that he did it all; on the contrary, he has many times acknowledged the great credit due his capable associates."

If a young man contemplating a commercial or financial life would carefully study the career of Mr. James Millikin

MR. MILLIKIN AT 60

and the elements in his personal character which enabled him to reach such an eminence in the business world, he would find the way quite well blazed for his own success.

Mr. Millikin's investments and businesses prior to coming to Decatur have already been quite well set forth. He continued for some years to be interested in cattle and in farm land, occasionally investing in some city real estate, but other business projects in Decatur and in Louisiana engaged his attention during the later years.

It is well to recall here the fact that the founder and promoter of this great financial institution in Decatur grew up on a stock farm and devoted a dozen years of his full manhood to dealing in and herding stock in Illinois with such success that he has been called "The First Cattle King of the Prairie State."

With a keen vision he also saw far enough ahead to realize that western land at $1.25 per acre would soon increase greatly in value and then had the courage to invest heavily enough in them to realize a handsome fortune in a brief time.

And yet, with only such a back-ground and such an experience, knowing practically nothing about banking, he suddenly veers about and enters a field which at that time, after the financial commotion of the previous decade, was not the most assuredly attractive one in the business world.

The growth of the banking business was slow for a while, being conservative in its management. It steadily gained the confidence of the community, however, and erelong became one of the leading institutions in Central Illinois, requiring several times more room and vault space, culminating in the erection of the present handsome building in 1896, excelled in beauty and convenience by few outside Chicago, with commodious safety deposit vaults of the modern type; absolutely proof against fire and burglars, the construction being especially ingenious and massive. In 1903 the deposits had reached the comfortable sum of $3,000,000, all the National banks in the city having but $4,450,000 at that time.

He became interested in a variety of enterprises, aiding

some of them in substantial ways, his holdings gradually including city real estate, some farm lands in Illinois and considerable stock in Louisiana canal and rice companies in his later years. At times he had large investments in government bonds, in whose changing values he seemed to have had prescience unusual.

He was born a Whig in politics, but joined the Republican party about the time of its organization in the fifties. Tho quite prominent and influential in its councils, he was not inclined to seek any official position. He served, however, as a member of the Board of Supervisors and as a city alderman for some time after locating in Decatur. Once he consented to run for State Senator, but the prejudices against bankers in general at that time was used by his opponent with such effect that he failed of election, which he felt keenly, tho a good sport in politics as well as in business.

The story of the founding and development of The James Millikin University is given so fully in its details in my Quarter-Centennial History of the Institution, that it is omitted here. A brief account of it follows, however:

Through all these changing years Mr. Millikin did not permit himself to forget that vow of his college days, and with advancing age discussed his cherished project occasionally with personal friends tho formulating no definite plans. He however purchased Oakland Park, one day saying that he might wish to build a college or a school on it some time.

A few weeks afterward he expressed his determination to contribute a still larger sum for its maintenance, which added greatly to the enthusiasm which his original proposition had already aroused.

It organized at Decatur, October 23, 1900. A committee of citizens was appointed to solicit the city's quota, which immediately organized and proceeded with its work. On January 1, 1901, Mr. Millikin was notified that his conditions had been met.

Late in 1899 he stated to D. L. Bunn and John A. Brown, both prominent attorneys of Decatur, that he would contribute $100,000 toward the establishment of an industrial

school in the city if the citizens would duplicate that amount. The story soon reached others, resulting in a conference with him at which he made a more formal proposition which the representatives of the daily papers were authorized to publish the next day.

On the following morning he invited Miss Miller, now Mrs. G. R. Wagonseller, a city reporter for the Herald, to his office for an interview. She recalls the evident pleasure with which Mr. Millikin set forth the various features of his plan for publication, and pointing to some boys outside his office window, said: "I wish to found a school that will teach those boys on the street how to make a living with their hands as well as with their heads and prepare them fully for some industrial occupations. I wish it to do the same thing for the girls, especially to give them an education in the household arts, including those who desire to become housemaids, so that they may also become intelligent and refined women like the nurses and thus give them better standing in the home life. I want the cooks capable of selecting and preparing our meals so intelligently that they will keep us well and thus save the expense of the nurse to make us well."

While the citizens were discussing the advisability of responding to his liberal offer affirmatively, another movement was developing in cooperation with a larger project.

The new project, as outlined by Dr. Darby and Mr. Hawkins, proved much more attractive to him than the local industrial school merely. After discussing its various phases and possibilities at length with them and other church and personal friends, Mr. Millikin made an informal proposition which two days afterwards he reduced to writing, embodying details more fully. A careful reading of it will show as clearly as words can express, the intent and scope of the institution he was proposing, the liberal policy he wished it to follow, and the forecast of its future possibilities evidently then possessing him. It should ever serve as an unquestioned guide for all boards to be loyally followed in the administration of their sacred trust.

Decatur, Illinois, May 15, 1900.

Rev. A. W. Hawkins, Pastor Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Decatur, Illinois, and

Rev. W. J. Darby, Education Secretary, Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Gentlemen:

In connection with the published statement that I would give $200,000 and Oakland Park (16 acres) for an educational institution of a particular type, provided the citizens of Decatur would contribute $100,000, mention has been made of the transfer to this city of the institution now located at Lincoln, Illinois, in which your denomination is interested.

I have no disposition to arouse rivalry on this question between these two cities, but I take occasion to say for myself, if the authorities of your denomination are inclined to concentrate their educational interests at Decatur, I would cheerfully donate for such purpose the sum of $200,000 and the park, provided the citizens of Decatur will join in giving $100,000 and your denomination will contribute a reasonable sum. To this offer I attach only two conditions.

First: That in addition to the customary college courses taught in our literary institutions, there should be a co-ordinate branch in which the young, both boys and girls, are trained for the practical duties of life, on the farm, in the shop, in the counting room and in the home; an institution where the scientific, the practical, and industrial shall have a place of equal importance, side by side with the literary and classical.

Second: That while your denomination would sustain toward the institution in the appointment of trustees and faculty that official relation which is customary in such cases, yet the policy of the school should not narrowly be "Sectarian" and it should be conducted on a broad plane in which all will be treated alike, regardless of sect or creed. I will say that I was brought up under the influence of your church, my father being a Cumberland Presbyterian elder in Pennsylvania; my wife is the daughter of a Cumberland Presbyterian minister, the Rev. Samuel Aston, and while we both had other church affiliations for many years in this city, yet

we have a high regard for the church of our parents, and if our fellow citizens will join us, we shall be very glad to enter into the plan here proposed, with a view to giving the young that education, practical and Christian, which will fit them to be good and useful citizens; also for the benefit of the community at large by establishing in our midst a first-class educational institution.

The expectation exists that the sum of $100,000 would be added by your church to the $300,000 named for Decatur citizens and myself, making a total of $400,000. The amount ought to be a half-million dollars. Should your church put in an additional $50,000, it may be confidently expected that the remaining $50,000 necessary to the half-million will be forthcoming from Decatur if the interest is taken here which the enterprise should receive.

Respectfully yours, James Millikin.

On behalf of the church, the proposition was promptly accepted by Mr. Hawkins and Dr. Darby and the public announcement through the church papers aroused widespread interest and enthusiasm. They enlisted the cooperation of several leaders in the field and as soon as feasible inaugurated a campaign for meeting its requirements.

At their October meetings the synods of Indiana, Illinois and Iowa formally approved their action and appointed a College Commission with authority to secure a charter and proceed vigorously to raise the required sum.

The story of that successful campaign under the magnetic leadership of Dr. Darby, president of the Commission, and Mr. Hawkins, financial agent, makes very interesting reading. When the time limit later fixt by Mr. Millikin is considered, together with the fact that the total membership of the denomination in those states was not only comparatively small but embraced few large congregations accustomed to think in large sums, and further, that at that time there were few colleges in the West possessing such an endowment as proposed, the successful outcome was quite remarkable.

Aside from the funds, however, great gain came to the

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT DEDICATES THE UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS

proposed college through the intensive and wide-spread advertising given it resulting in the unparalleled registration record at its opening in 1903.

The first dollar received in response to Mr. Millikin's proposition for the endowment fund of the University came from Mrs. Nancy Creamer, a poor woman of Chariton, Iowa. It was a silver piece, a widow's mite. It is deposited in the University vault where it will be kept in appreciation of her interest in this project of her beloved church.

Among the larger contributors to the original first hundred thousand at Decatur were the following:

Orlando Powers	$ 10,000
Thomas T. Roberts	5,000
William H. Ennis	5,000
Caroline M. Powers	5,000
One subscribed	2,140
Three each	1,500
Eighteen each	1,000

Among those subscribing to the Synod's first hundred thousand were:

Mrs. E. Thornton, Petersburg, Ind.	$ 20,000
Mrs. S. E. Davidson, Mt. Zion	7,000
A. R. Scott, Bethany	5,000
Mrs. E. J. Stansberry, Gibson	13,000
Mrs. Lydia Phillips, Danvers	12,000
Seven others one thousand each	7,000

Among the bequests secured directly or indirectly by the College Commission of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and paid into the endowment fund later were the following:

Estate of J. G. Wheeler	$ 25,000
W. H. Harvey, Washington	10,615
W. H. Wallace, Mt. Zion	10,000
J. E. Rouse, Gays	40,000
	$ 85,615
The Commission also paid into the College treasury interest on its pledge of fifty thousand as explained	15,000
	$100,618

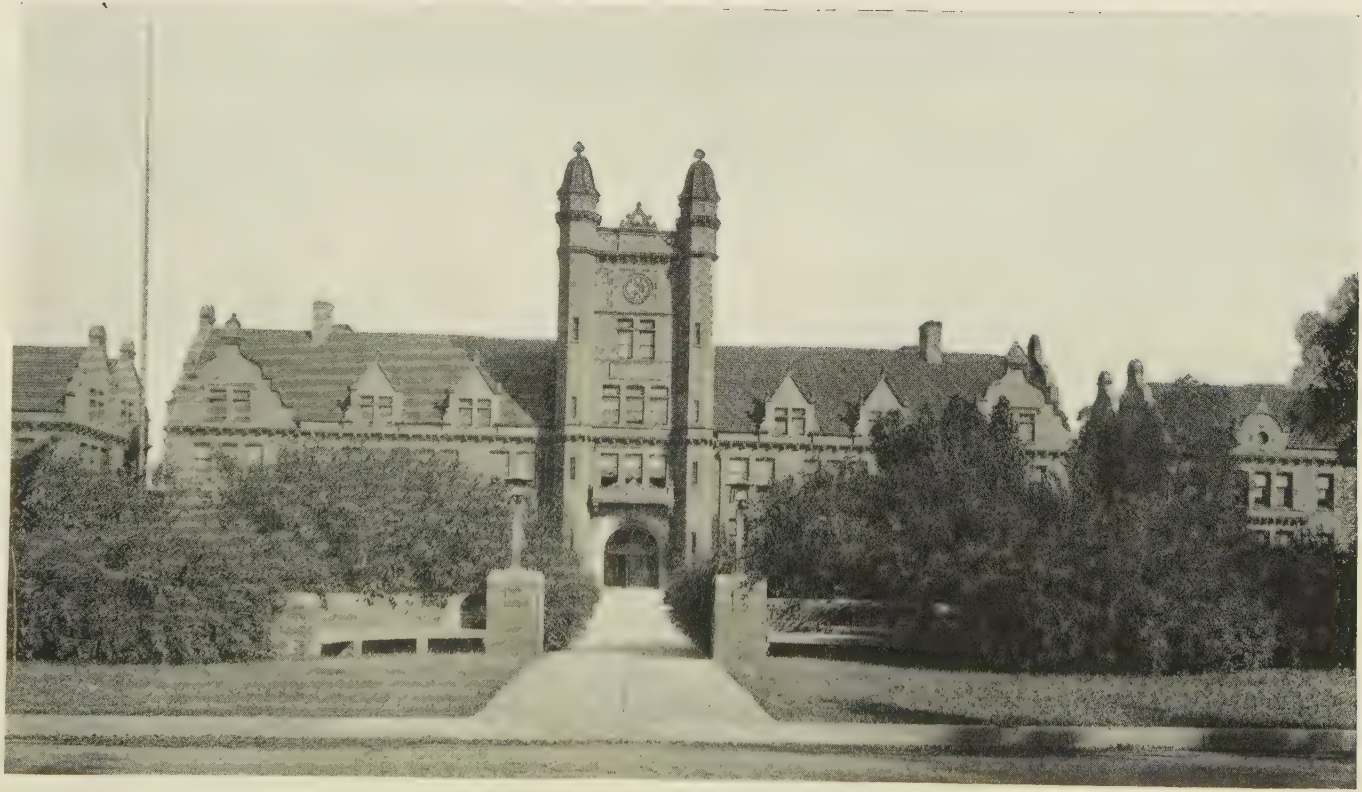
The Commission and a Citizens' Committee, after spending much time in negotiating with the Board of Trustees of Lincoln University with reference to a union of the two institutions, agreed upon certain amendments to the charter of the University, which provided that it should change its name to Lincoln College and along with the proposed Decatur College and Industrial School constitute The James Millikin University as the legal successor of Lincoln University; that the Board of Trustees of the University should be appointed by the three synods named, practically in the same manner as the trustees of Lincoln University had been appointed; and that each college should be governed by a local board of managers appointed by the said Board of Trustees, in conjunction with the President of the University. They also defined the rights and privileges of each college and specifically set forth the duties of each board and of the President of the University.

The amended charter went into operation on its adoption, April 30, 1901. The members of the first Board of Trustees were as follows: W. J. Darby, Indiana, president; W. C. Outten, Illinois, vice-president; H. E. Starkey, Illinois, secretary; S. E. Walker, Illinois, treasurer; A. C. Boyd, J. T. Foster, E. G. King, A. H. Mills, A. W. Hawkins, W. T. Moffett, F. E. Bell, R. M. Tinnon and W. S. Phillips, all of Illinois; J. E. Williamson, Indiana; and R. L. Vannice, Iowa.

The new board of managers for the Decatur College and Industrial School organized on June 14, 1901. The membership was as follows: I. R. Mills, president; A. R. Scott, vice-president; S. E. Walker, secretary; O. B. Gorin, treasurer; T. T. Roberts, W. J. Wayne, A. R. Montgomery, Peter Loeb, T. A. Powers, J. K. McDavid, C. S. Needham.

Dr. A. R. Taylor, president of the State Normal of Kansas, formerly a member of the faculty of Lincoln University, was elected president, and he assumed the duties of the office on July 1, 1901.

In company with Mr. Millikin and Mr. Peter Loeb, chairman of the building committee, we visited several of the leading institutions of the country for the purpose of study-



ENGINEERING LIBERAL ARTS HOUSEHOLD ARTS

ing their plans, buildings and equipment. The board having definitely located the college in Oakland Park, enlarged by tracts on north and west respectively, adopted the Elizabethan style of architecture as most appropriate for the situation.

The corner stone of the Liberal Arts building was laid by the Masonic fraternity on June 12, 1902, Grand Master George M. Moulton officiating. The address was delivered by Dr. W. H. Penhallegon, of Decatur.

The total cost of the four initial buildings including the power house proper equipment was $216,000. Thirty thousand dollars additional was expended for the equipment of the other buildings.

The buildings were dedicated on June 4, 1903, with imposing ceremonies, the dedicatory address being given by President Theodore Roosevelt. A vast throng attended these exercises, the occasion being one of great interest to the city and vicinity as well as to many friends from abroad.

While seriously considering the call to the Presidency of Millikin, I came to Decatur to look the situation over with friends, especially with Mr. and Mrs. Millikin. In discussing the ideals in their minds, the former said that he expected to set apart his entire estate for the support of the college at Decatur and would do so if the venture was successful. I asked what he meant by that expression, and he replied:

"If in the course of five or six years you have five or six hundred students and become recognized as one of the high class colleges in the Mississippi Valley, I shall regard that as a success." That goal easily became mine as a minimum, for had I expected less there was no reason for my coming to Decatur.

Just before the opening in September, 1903, Mr. Millikin called in Mr. Loeb and advised boarding up the west end of the main corridor, shutting off the engineering hall, for he was sure it would not be needed. He replied, "Wait and see." Mr. Millikin also asked me whether it would not be wise. My correspondence and applications for entrance assured me of over 300 to start with and I comforted him by

practically the same response. A week later we realized that more room for class and laboratory work was already needed.

The exercises of the opening day, September 15, 1903, were attended by a large company of friends and prospective students, University and College officials occupying the platform. Mr. and Mrs. Millikin with some personal friends occupied the east box. Mrs. Taylor with some interested friends, was in the President's box on the west.

The enthusiasm ran high as Honorable I. R. Mills, President of the board of managers, opened the program with congratulations and encouraging prophecies for the future of the new institution. Others followed in a similar vein with assurances of cooperation and support.

My address was devoted chiefly to the ideals and the plans for the year, closing with this summary:

"This college stands for higher planes of scholarship, for loftier ideals of manhood and womanhood, for the dignity of all labor, for the preservation and maintenance of the institutions which have been the bulwark of society and the crowning glory of our modern civilization. Its creed will be the common creed of the best minds and the best blood of the race; its mission to contribute as may be in its power to the promotion of all that is best among men."

In the meantime I had been "taking account of stock" as to the probable number of students crowding up through the gallery almost to the ceiling and feeling confident of the result of our active canvass of the field, I stepped forward and asked all present who intended to enroll in our classes to stand. The applause following was so infectious that as a friend expressed it, "the roof seemed to shake." The tellers appointed reported to me and I turned to Mr. Millikin, recalling his statement that if in five or six years our attendance should reach that many hundred, he would be satisfied. I then introduced to him 562 students waiting to matriculate.

He could not restrain the tears as he stood facing that goodly company and bowing quietly resumed his seat. As we rose to pass out he said to Mr. A. H. Mills, one of the managers, equally pleased with the rest of us: "Now it is

up to the faculty." It was a greater day for our benefactor than for all the rest of us combined.

The total enrollment for the first year was 712; for the second year it was 764, representing 23 different states and territories and 163 cities and towns, each succeeding year showing substantial increase with a more mature and responsive body of students.

ANNA BERNICE ASTON MILLIKIN

ANNA BERNICE ASTON MILLIKIN

The foregoing story would be very incomplete without a further word concerning his devoted wife, who was his daily companion and counselor for over fifty years.

As already stated, Mrs. Millikin's father, Samuel M. Aston, was a prominent evangelist in Eastern Tennessee, having united with the Cumberland Presbyterians in their alienation from the Presbyterian Church during the Great Revival of 1810-30.

On account of the urgent demands for evangelists in so many quarters, the new organization licensed a large number of young men whose education was limited, but whose ability seemed supported by their confidence in being called to such service. The Nashville presbytery sent several men on evangelical tours, and in 1824 Mr. Aston was delegated to go up into Eastern Tennessee along with another kindred spirit, spending, it appears, about six years in successful work, largely in that section. He is described as "a strong thinker, out-spoken, independent, rather blunt in his utterances, fearless and fully persuaded that God was with him. While his mate could make people weep, he could wield strong arguments that would convince the gain-sayers."

Many of these pioneer preachers wore homespun clothing and were often ridiculed, even by the clergy of the mother church, but their preaching resulted in the establishment of many congregations almost everywhere they went.

His fame extended to other states, and Cumberland Presbytery gave him a letter of dismission and recommendation to the Pennsylvania churches, where he desired to make his permanent home. He soon became an influential factor in organizing those vigorous churches in Washington and adjoining counties, which founded Waynesburg College, and sent out hundreds, perhaps thousands, of consecrated ministers and laymen to build churches and schools throughout

the Central West. He was admitted to membership in Washington Presbytery at its organization in 1832.

In 1835 several ministers from Pennsylvania were sent to Ohio to organize congregations, among them being Mr. Aston, who held a profitable series of meetings at Jacobsville, and organized one there.

It was but natural, being from the South, that the only daughter, Anna Bernice, should be sent to the Washington Female Seminary, for the completion of her education, where she graduated in 1854.

In 1855 the church at Mt. Zion, Macon County, Ill., invited Mr. Aston to become its pastor. He accepted the call, and the family settled on an eighty-acre farm which he purchased a short distance northwest of the village, a very common thing for pioneer ministers to do in those days. The daughter on her scholastic record at the Seminary, was engaged to teach in the village school.

Mr. Millikin, having come to Decatur about this time, often attended the parties and lyceums of those days, where he was warmly welcomed, and highly esteemed. He occasionally engaged in the debating contests, being well informed on many subjects discussed. He made some reputation in the spelling contests, and having had an interesting experience in transferring his home from Pennsylvania to Illinois, it was but natural that the comely and well-educated Anna, from his native town, should soon beget an acquaintance with this young Othello that called out the stories of his life as a shepherd and as a stockman in the wilds of the Prairie state, still then a kind of a "Woolly West."

There is a legend that Mr. Millikin's sisters, fellow students in the Washington Seminary with Miss Aston, wrote Brother Jim of her rare qualities, and urged an early acquaintance, if nothing more. They regarded her as quite a desirable sister-in-law.

At any rate, he easily won her, and being practically thirty years of age, he lost no more time in waiting thru a long engagement. She herself was about twenty-five, and the chronicler states that on New Year's day, 1857, Mr. Millikin took the Rev. Erastus W. Thayer, pastor of the Pres-

MILLIKIN COTTAGE 1859-'76

byterian Church at Decatur, out to the Aston home, and in the presence of a small, but select company of friends the nuptials were duly solemnized without delay. Her father had died on November 17, 1856, hence the call for services of another minister. Within fifteen minutes the bridal party was on its way to Decatur, and the Illinois Central train was soon speeding along with them to Chicago.

For a year or more, after their return, they had rooms at the old Revere House in Decatur, and then set up housekeeping in an attractive cottage on the northeast corner of William and Edward Streets, living there until they built and moved into the new home on Millikin Place in 1876.

She and Mr. Millikin became pretty good comrades, and travelled much in this country and abroad, improving every opportunity to inspect notable buildings and to become acquainted with the best in art, both in private collections and in worth-while museums. The finish and the furnishing of this new home were unexcelled in artistry in the entire city for long years afterward, making it naturally a popular place for the meetings of the "Art Class," composed of some rare spirits hereabouts who made the study of art a serious business, a few of whom still remain and are continually reinforced by kindred women, with their class home in an upper room in the Art Institute.

Under Mrs. Millikin's personal direction, Millikin Place soon became the most attractive beauty spot in Decatur, and will always be a monument to her rare taste and untiring devotion to her home.

Mrs. Millikin's mother, Hetty Bartlett Aston, made her home with her daughter as the Millikins went to housekeeping in their home at Millikin Place. She was in poor health for many years and practically had no intimate friends in the city tho cared for with tender solicitude until her demise in 1886.

The Millikins were good livers and great readers as well as great travellers and spent much time in their cozy library where their penates really presided and ruled. Both of them loved their home, and until their later years were generous

entertainers—brilliant lawn fetes, as well as indoor receptions being still recalled with pleasure by their old-time friends.

The annual commencement fetes for the University people, given on their lovely lawn for several years, was a most popular social event, greatly enjoyed by the gracious host and hostess themselves as well as by their guests.

Following Mr. Millikin's death, Mrs. Millikin hesitated to continue them, but one spring morning in the following year, as I was calling at the home, she most feelingly spoke of those formerly given, and asked whether I thought it would be appropriate and acceptable for her to resume them at the coming commencement. On my assurance that we had been hoping she might feel that she could do so, she was deeply touched, saying that she had thought that there was nothing for her to live for after Mr. Millikin was gone, but that if she could be of some service it would gratify her. I suggested that she permit Mrs. Taylor and Dean Valentine to relieve her of much of the details and responsibilities, which she consented to do, and the event was a very enjoyable one altho her strength was heavily taxed at times.

Definite sources of information concerning Mrs. Millikin's father's ancestors are not available. That they were English is most probable, for the family name, Aston, was derived from Aston in Cheshire, England, and borne by succeeding generations since the time of Henry II in the Twelfth Century with varying spellings in the different branches, as Aston, Astone, Ashton, Asahton and Ayston, due likely to illiteracy, carelessness, or whimsicality in certain families.

It has been borne by a goodly line of distinguished Britons, including great scholars, scientists, jurists, diplomats, warriors, prelates, authors, dramatists, etc. One of them, Sir Edward Aston, was one of the richest men in all England in the Sixteenth Century and another, Sir Richard Aston, served for some time in the Eighteenth Century as Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, and another, a William George Aston, born near Londonery, Ireland, in 1841, became a famous Irish philologist with honors from Belfast University, and served long and well in England's foreign service. This seems to indicate the existence of a line of Astons in

Ireland for some years tho whether her father, brilliant man tho he was, traced his lineage to an English or Irish ancestry is not clear. As he grew up among the English descendants in the Cumberland Mountains of Eastern Tennessee, who were protestants and Presbyterians, the presumption is strongly in favor of English forbears.

Mrs. Aston's nationality seems wholly veiled, tho it was likely English of the protestant persuasion. Her acquaintances and friends speak of her as well educated and possessed of many excellent social qualities, a woman of high personal character, a consecrated Christian, devoted to her family and church.

So with such a heritage, the daughter, Anna Bernice Aston, in graduating from the Seminary at Washington, Pennsylvania, was an unusually well equipped woman for the middle of the last century. All of her intimate associates agree upon this point and upon her vision and leadership in community activities of many kinds. In the Soldiers' Aid Society she was especially active, and as a member of the First Presbyterian Church took a prominent part in its various enterprises. She was a charter member of the Decatur Woman's Club, and together with Mrs. Ira N. Barnes and Mrs. A. T. Hill, took the initiative in organizing the Art Class in January, 1880, of which she was always a loyal participating member.

From their arrival in Decatur the Millikins were generous contributors to community enterprises in Macon County, especially to church buildings and to charitable organizations in the city. Mrs. Millikin was one of the promoters and organizers of the Macon County Industrial School for Girls, which was incorporated February 26, 1890, tho not one of its formal incorporators.

It had no fixed habitat nor employed teachers however, the instruction being given mostly by the members and volunteer instructors at designated places accessible to the children.

On September 14, 1892, a petition was sent to Springfield for a charter for the incorporation of the Anna B. Millikin Home with the expressed object of caring for aged

women and dependent children. It was signed by Mrs. Millikin and Mesdames Catto, LeForgee, Roberts and Durfee. The same year Mr. Millikin bought in on a mortgage the Old Lake, then the Working-Man's, Hotel standing on the corner of Sangamon and Lowber Streets, and deeded it to the Home Trustees, which they occupied for nearly ten years, accomplishing much good and expanding its sphere of usefulness.

On February 7, 1893, a joint meeting of the two organizations above mentioned was held to consider the advisability of uniting, as they were trying to do practically the same work. The consolidation was accomplished and a charter secured under the name of The Anna B. Millikin Home and Macon County Industrial School for Girls, the object being to care for aged women and dependent children. Its success awakened general interest among the people, and when in 1900 Mr. Millikin proposed to give $10,000 for the erection of a new and modern building on a three-acre tract which he owned across east from Oakland Park, provided the citizens would raise an equal amount, they responded very promptly, raising the full sum required. He soon saw that an adequate building would require a larger amount, and added $5,000 more, thus enabling the trustees to erect the beautiful and commodious building which the Home occupies since 1901,—for a quarter of a century in successful operation, a delightful refuge for homeless girls and aged women, a noble charity in this busy city.

During the rest of her life, Mrs. Millikin was an active or honorary director, giving much time to the development and shaping of its policy, she and Mr. Millikin contributing generously to its support. The Trustees of the Estate continue an annual allowance and are sympathetically interested in its work.

That the Millikins were mutually devoted to these recipients of their benefactions was well known; indeed, the location of this Home across the street from Oakland Park which he had some years before purchased as a site for his proposed college, illustrates how intimately they planned together for their cherished public benefactions.

ASTON HALL

Her education and experience in so many constructive activities in Decatur, well-fitted her to enter intelligently and sympathetically into Mr. Millikin's plans for the establishment of an institution of learning of the advanced modern type which he had been nursing since his youth.

They two were one in the proposition for a college which he made to the city of Decatur and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, as indeed they had been all along in dreaming and planning for its establishment.

While neither of them was disposed to lead in working out the plans for the construction of the College buildings, we found her ideas quite helpful in certain minor architectural details. When, however, they offered to erect a woman's dormitory, we were pleased to have them, especially Mrs. Millikin, take the initiative in developing plans and specifications with the architect, tho they desired to have us advise with them freely, and to look after details of construction.

In a quiet way it was understood that it was her contribution to the building program, hence our desire that it should bear the name of Aston in honor of her father. Tho its designation was delayed at Mr. Millikin's request, he said that after he was gone we had liberty. She never lost interest in its maintenance and management, her last visit to the campus being to inspect its condition with me and advise concerning certain repairs. She took great satisfaction in the beautiful effect produced by the whole campus outlay of buildings, including the Home, saying one day that she and Mr. Millikin had not seen in all their travels any College group that pleased them so much. Mr. Millikin also said that he desired all future buildings to be of the same general design.

It was a fitting climax to all her beneficent services to the community that she should leave the old homestead, so expressive of the cherished ideals of her full life, for the development of an Art Institute in which exhibits and instruction should be combined for quickening and stimulating the art instinct among all classes of people, and thus lift them up to higher planes of living and enjoyment.

Mrs. Millikin was the leading spirit of the Art Class and

by her enthusiasm and encouragement helped it to bridge over times of slackening interest. Its anniversary was often celebrated by a big dinner in her home at which she usually presided, keeping things a-going by her wit and skillful management. Some photographs of such an occasion are highly prized by the members, one of them being in the Class Room at the Institute.

She served as president for several terms and many more as secretary, being especially felicitous in writing up the minutes, which she often did in rhyme, making their reading highly enjoyable. Whether in prosody or prose, however, they were models of diction and elegance, as the records on deposit in the Art Institute library clearly show. She was quite happy in a poetical way, as several fragments prove, and it is to be deplored that some of her poems were not published for preservation. Specimens are attached at the close of this chapter.

Her artistic tastes have already been mentioned, but it should not be overlooked that she was also an artist of considerable merit herself, having done some worth-while things in crayon and oil at different times, courses in which she evidently pursued in the Washington Female Seminary.

All of these things and more confirm the estimate of her associates thru her palmier days that she was a woman of unusual refinement, brilliant and accomplished, living her life with a vision, an inspiration to all who knew her, resourceful, untiring, whose place in Decatur's history will always be held in grateful recognition.

Both of the Millikins were seriously afflicted for many of the later years of their lives, but it was known only to personal friends that their winter trips to Florida were not for pleasure only, and that they were dependent upon a physician or a more or less permanent masseur and masseuse for that measure of strength that enabled them to give much attention to social affairs, tho able to manage their personal matters fairly well to the end.

They were even compelled to curtail their attendance at University functions except to a very few more important ones. The last commencement Mrs. Millikin attended in-

cluded the noon alumni dinner, at which she seemed more alert and interested than usual and her conversation somewhat more vivacious, apparently appealing for sympathetic intercourse with those present.

As usual, shortly after commencement she came out to inspect Aston Hall with me and advise concerning certain needed repairs and improvements. After going over the first floor, I found her very much exhausted and urged her not to attempt to go farther, assuring her that I knew her wishes and would carry them out fully. She acquiesced and we walked slowly out to await her hostler's coming. He delayed, however, and noticing her strenuous efforts to compose herself, I urged her to let me drive her home in my car. She gently declined and excused me with a gracious word of appreciation and soon drove out of the quiet forest campus, the climax of all their life dreams and plans, for the last time.

A few days later Mrs. Millikin was reported as seriously ill, and tho cared for with devoted solicitude by Mr. Porter Millikin and experienced nurses, gradually lost her little remaining strength and went to sleep July 29, 1913, in her eightieth year.

The funeral rites were held in the home she loved so well, which was elaborately decorated with choice floral emblems from many personal friends, from organizations of which she was a member, from the Bank, the Trustees of the Millikin estate, and from the Trustees of the University and Board of Managers of the College of which she had from their organization been an honorary member, and also from the Anna B. Millikin Home board.

Representatives of the University and the Millikin Bank served as pallbearers. The music was presented by the choir of the First Presbyterian Church of which she had been an active member for over fifty years.

Dr. W. H. Penhallegon, her pastor and devoted friend for nearly a quarter of a century, delivered a simple and feeling tribute to her memory, in part as follows:

> "Some die readily enough; their individuality is so plastic and their character so negative that you come to regard them as mere abstractions while they live, and do

not miss them much when they go. They drop out of life without causing a stir and their going leaves no perceptible vacancy. But there are those whose hearts are so big, minds so active, and lives so full of good works that their going leaves the world poorer. It is such an event—such a loss—that has called us together today.

"Mrs. Millikin needs no eulogy from me; it is being pronounced by those who knew her best. We think of her as an unostentatious, sincere, kindly, loyal woman, 'who went about doing good.' Her plans for the welfare and happiness of others were large and generous. If frugality was one of her characteristics—if she denied herself luxuries to which she was entitled and might have enjoyed, it was that others should have them. That she had a deep and abiding interest in all that made for human welfare, her friends and acquaintances knew full well; and if in her sympathies and sacrifices she seemed partial, it was, as you will testify, that she might be helpful to children and young people.

"She was a lover of nature, was interested in 'God's out of doors.' The flowers, foliage, and trees were to her a lure and a joy. She was a lover of art; pictures and statuary appealed to her strongly, and from their companionship she derived continuous pleasure. She loved God; the atmosphere of the home in which she was reared was Christian, and this not only gave tone and character to her life, but explains also the whole structure of that life, and revealed the spirit by which it was compacted and controlled. Her life was true, honored and happy. We are all glad that it was spared until the golden sunset."

She had some time before approved plans for the family mausoleum in Greenwood Cemetery, and found much comfort in its completion in time to see Mr. Millikin's casket and those of her parents installed in it, theirs having been transferred on September 6, 1912. Her own crypt was awaiting her coming and she was satisfied.

Her will provided that the old homestead, worth approximately $100,000, with its art treasures and the lovely grounds should be devoted to the development of an art collection and a school of instruction, under the auspices of an Art Association or of the James Millikin University, as the trustees appointed by her may elect. They were the same as those of the Millikin estate.

In addition to the real property, she set apart an accumulated fund of many thousand dollars for the purpose of assisting in the inauguration and maintenance of the Art Institute.

Her will also gave certain instructions concerning location and preservation of the furniture and art treasures and of the buildings themselves. Thus does she live and inspire her adopted city with one of the consuming ambitions of her full life.

The University authorities, on the advice of the head of the Art Department and the President of the College, did not think the establishment of the Institute as a feature of the college feasible at the time on account, chiefly, of the distance from the campus.

In the meantime, as Mrs. Taylor and I were including inspection of many art institutes in our "Seeing America Tour," we discovered the attractive Sweet Gallery and School in Portland, Maine, which was organized in accordance with the provisions of Mrs. Sweet's will, strikingly similar in essentials to those of Mrs. Millikin's, which I reported to Dr. S. E. McClelland, chairman of the Estate Trustees.

In reply he stated that her trustees would be pleased to have me submit a plan for an organizaiton here. This I did on my return in 1915, but the World War being then on in full blast they did not believe it wise to attempt anything at that time.

Some choice spirits representing several organizations in the city, held conferences from time to time, however, in an effort to devise a plan of organization, but our entrance into the world war absorbed all minds and postponed further steps—the Red Cross occupying the building for awhile.

At the close of the war, a few of us representing the organizations already interested, met and formulated a plan in general accordance with the outline which I had already submitted, and perfected a temporary organization with instructions to apply for a charter.

The incorporators were W. F. Hardy, J. O. Engleman, A. R. Taylor, Mrs. Charles G. Powers, Mrs. Della P. Gushard, and twenty-two others. The charter was secured, and the following were elected the first directors of The Decatur

INSTITUTE OF CIVIC ARTS

Institute of Civic Arts: A. R. Taylor, Mrs. Effie R. Powers, Clarence A. Wait, Edward P. Irving, Andrew M. Kenney, Robert Mueller, James O. Engleman, Mrs. Della P. Gushard, and Warren F. Hardy.

On April 22, 1919, they met and organized by electing the first three named, President, Vice-President and Secretary, and Smith E. Walker, Treasurer.

Being now ready for business, a formal conference was arranged and held with the Trustees of the Anna B. Millikin estate, at which they agreed to lease the homestead to the Institute for a period of five years and contribute the sum of $2,500 each year on condition that our board raise a similar amount. More than that was raised by membership fees in sums ranging from $1.00 to $100. A large sum was spent on repairs and modifications of the residence building, a new electric lighting system, etc.

A room on the second floor was assigned to the Art Class as its home, one to the Daughters of the American Revolution, and one to the Decatur and Macon County Historical Society, in which appropriate exhibits are gradually being installed, and which are worth-while adjuncts of the Institute.

On its very first opening loan exhibit, the attendance was a happy surprise and with each recurring display, whether a loan, or by the University Art Department, the High School, St. Theresa Academy, The Art Guild, or other organizations, the permanent value of the Institute to this community has been increasingly emphasized by thousands of visitors each year.

Floral exhibits have proved exceedingly popular. It has greatly stimulated art interest in many lines by the offer of cash prizes to students in the schools named and by offering lectures and instruction in the excellent studio provided in the brick barn nearby. It makes an effort to purchase a new art piece by some well-known artist each year for the permanent exhibit which is already very creditable, as many connoisseures have assured us. It has inherited a dozen or more fine art pieces from the former Decatur Municipal Art League, and by providing superior display conveniences in the way of tables, cases and wall space, by

courses of lectures on art topics by experts, has made a place for itself in Decatur. Several educational and social organizations give receptions in the Institute building from time to time; community sings and band concerts four or five evenings during the mid-summer months bring together as many as two thousand delighted people on the beautiful and well-lighted lawn, the whole rapidly making the Institute an increasingly popular Community Center.

The income from membership fees for the first six years has been about $16,000 and from the Trustees of the Millikin Estates nearly the same.

The Institute has continued to improve its facilities for its exhibits, and to make the same increasingly attractive. It has improved the grounds and offers in its tennis courts opportunity for lovers of the game to occupy them at all hours of the day.

The lease of the homestead for another five years was recently secured with a more advantageous agreement about income at the expiration of which it is expected a permanent lease may be arranged that the larger plans of the Institute Board may begin to realize in something increasingly tangible and proportionate to the vision of its founder, and to the needs of our rapidly growing and progressive city.

A Centennial Poem

This poem was read at the Centennial meeting of the Decatur Art Class and published by the request of friends:

Time's cycles have revolved for us one
Hundred years. The buds have come, the flowers
Have bloomed, the showers of brilliant autumn
Leaves, the whitening fields of winter days
Have come and gone, one hundred times.

* * * * *

The cycles of one hundred years, have brought
To us a vast domain from sea to sea:
From broad palm lands of the southern skies
To the great glaciers of Alaska's shores;
A clime unrivaled by the world.
No skies more blue, no suns so bright.
Responding to the will of man, our hills and lofty
Mountains empty forth one third of all the

Metals of the earth. The many looms and
Shuttles of the busy mills, embower'd
With trees upon the silvery streams, turn
Out at least one fourth as all the mills on
Earth. The fields of waving corn and wheat, and
All the food that springs from soil so rich.
Our teeming lakes, and rivers broad, on whose clear
Waters sail unnumbered craft, outrank
The world: our stripes and stars float undisturbed
On every sea, in every clime.

* * * * *

Freedom's great genius rules with gentle hand our press, our
Schools—no sex or color—race or tribe unwelcome here.
And when two great worlds
Are bound in one, and hand clasps hand across
The straits, our innate genius will throw forth the binding
link.
Looks down our Washington
Upon us here today? Proud be the Nation
Of her Hero Son,—proud be the State that gave
Him birth,—proud be the people of his native land.
Our Nation's problem and the world's is solved—
And freedom born of Heaven is ours.

Anna B. Millikin.

From Secretary's records of the Art Class.
March 19th, 1881.

T'was a miserable day, the last time we met,
The streets were all muddy, the crossings were wet,
It drizzled and rained, and the wind did blow,
But before we came home it had turned to snow.
The beautiful snow, like a mantle of white
Hid all things ungainly completely from sight.
Notwithstanding all this, I will say as I pass,
Nine ladies were there, who belong to the class,
With umbrellas and shawls, rubber cloaks if you choose,
But who is afraid when they have a gum shoe?
The lesson was Raphael, his wonderful skill,
Creating immortal pictures at will,
Madonnas and frescoes, cartoons came in
For tapestries, such as are made in Gobelin.
Mrs. Greene was our critic, quite perfect were we.
Yet she noticed some errors—sans ceremonaie—
The corrections were made on the proper names—
This shows also improvement, if we only take pains.
Six notes of excuse were handed in,

Which releases the ladies from paying the tin.
Adjourned to meet as I see you all know,
At Mrs. Walston's home, on N. Main row.
Mrs. C. E. Roberts, President.
Mrs. Millikin, Secretary.

Report of the Session of the Art Class commencing Nov. 6th, 1880, and ending March 26th, 1881.

It has been said, "The more things thou learnest to know and to enjoy, the more complete and full will be for thee the delight of living." This sentiment is appreciated by every lady of our class. We look upon the wonderful pictures of the old masters with a newer, deeper interest, since we have learned something of their history. The interest of our members in the subject of Art, has not been of transient duration, but has apparently increased as the months have rolled 'round, and, if for any reason a lady has resigned her membership, we find another knocking at the door, ready, nay anxious, to join our circle. As a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump, so our example has infused a spirit of inquiry and study among the ladies of our city and already two other bands of students are emulating our example. During our session of five months we have assembled together twenty afternoons. The winter, which is just making its adieus to us, will be recorded as one of the coldest ever known, yet the beautiful snow has not fallen so rapidly, or covered the earth to such a depth, as to prevent a meeting,—torrents of rain and gusts of wind have been powerless to prevent an assemblage of the Class, and it has always met again when the hour came 'round, whether in storm, in sunshine, or in rain.

We adjourned December 18th and reassembled January 8th. Our weekly attendance has averaged fourteen. At the beginning of the term we commenced with "Roman Sculpture from Augustus to Adrian"—passing quite thoroly thru the part of our topic book devoted to this subject—completing which we next took up painting, commencing with "Painting in Egypt and Asia"—the first historical knowledge which we have of this beautiful art—and today we have "The great Venetian colorists and modern realists." We have passed over a space of thirty-seven pages—perhaps we have

not advanced as rapidly as we might desire, certainly we have been no more thorough than necessary. The mere mention of the subject of some of our lessons is sufficient proof of the interest of our meetings.

May the zeal of our ladies never grow less, and may the time soon arrive when it shall be said of a lady, not that she conducts a meeting as well as a man, but she conducts a meeting better than a man, and not that she knows as much as a man, but that she knows more than a man.

Mrs. James Millikin, Secretary.

The Millikins' keen interest in the work and growth of the University continued to the end, their chief concern being for a larger endowment and an increasing sphere of usefulness for this fond dream of Mr. Millikin's busy years from his youth onward.

Sir Christopher Wren, the greatest of English architects, commissioned by Charles II, began the construction of the famous St. Paul's Cathedral in London in 1675 and saw his son lay the last brick in it thirty-five years later. The tablet over the north entrance contains this inscription: *"Si monumentum requiris, circumspice"*—If you seek his monument, look about you. The appropriateness of its quotation on a front page of this book seems very apt.

As one enters the portal of beautiful Greenwood Cemetery, Decatur, and turns to the right past a few handsome mausoleums, he is confronted at the right by one more strikingly chaste and stately, an Egyptian architectural suggestion with the name Millikin-Aston over the entrance, the eternal resting place of our beloved patron and his devoted wife along with her parents, the last of both families—

Life's fitful fever over
Sleeping the sleep that
Knows no waking here.

But they still live nobly and ever in the beneficent institutions which their bounty has made possible and their sympa-

thetic hearts endowed for ministering to the endless procession of the sick and needy in the attractive addition to the Decatur and Macon County Hospital, in affording a comfortable refuge for homeless aged women and dependent children in the Anna B. Millikin Home, in bequeathing the beautiful old homestead for the Decatur Institute of Civic Arts, in erecting and furnishing the capacious and inviting Aston Hall for the University girls on the campus, and above all in the unexcelled group of buildings in Oakland Park for the housing of the James Millikin University with its multitudes of eager youth crowding its halls from year to year and in the generous endowment provided for its support.

Thus their works do testify of them here and do follow them in the Great Hereafter!

The custom of placing fragrant flowers—love tokens—on the threshold of their quiet tomb at least on memorial days by these beneficiaries will doubtless be continued throughout the coming years.

MISCELLANY

These personal gleanings are added as throwing side lights on the character of our patron that may help a little further in visualizing him more fully.

In 1903 James Millikin said of riches: "Augur was right about it when he prayed give me neither riches nor poverty. Riches come too late in life to be enjoyed."

A citizen who often went to Mr. Millikin begging for one thing or another had never been turned down. Approaching him with a worthy cause never met rebuff. He often said, "What is for Decatur's good is for my good."

"If a man understands his business it is safe to give him credit. I have loaned men five times what they were worth and never worried a minute about it. I have often ridden ten miles to see how a man fed his cattle, the condition of his lots and the way he put out the feed; and if that man understood the business of cattle feeding he got the money he wanted."

"Yes, Mr. Millikin was slow at times, but if you should bring a grind-stone into his room he could see further into it than any man I ever saw. His power of concentration and penetration was most unusual."

In talking to me one day about faculty salaries, he illustrated his idea by saying that if one of his bank clerks talked about leaving unless his pay was advanced, he paid little attention to it, but that if a head of a department should do so, he would give the request immediate consideration. While he believed that the laborer is worthy of his hire, the amount should depend on the value of his service.

The Millikins often entertained distinguished guests in their home. Old-time residents often refer to the notable reunion of General Grant's former soldiers here in 1881, some forty thousand of them being present. The General was the guest of Senator and Mrs. Oglesby and the next most distinguished visitor, General, then Senator, John A. Logan, made his home with the Millikins.

Mr. Loeb, chairman of the building committee, and myself kept a close watch on the progress of the construction of the original buildings. Mr. Millikin inspected the work very frequently also, calling our attention to sundry things. One day he was disturbed over the depth being dug for the foundation of the smoke stack, saying to me as he passed by, that we were putting a lot of money into that big hole. I told him that I was determined to have it strong enough to insure stability, but would look after it at once as they had about reached the limit fixed. To my surprise I found a bed of quicksand just being uncovered and promptly stopped further digging, but there never has been a crack in that stack except that made by lightning.

As the contractor was putting the basement window frames in the wall for the Liberal Arts hall group of buildings, Mr. Millikin observed that they were lower than the specifications as he understood them provided for, they being scarcely above the main street level—making the buildings look squatty. I called the architect's attention to the matter, insisting that our understanding placed them higher though the blueprints might show differently. They insisted that the engineering building on the west was already higher than the contour permitted and should not be lifted further. The contractor was unwilling to make any change as the expense would be too great for him to bear. Mr. Millikin came to the rescue by proposing to the street commissioner to lower the bed of the street and he would bear the expense, some $2,000 or more. This is the explanation of part of the elevation of the lots on the south side of West Main.

Mr. Millikin was not very enthusiastic over the idea of spending much money on athletics, and yet in conversation with me about our football plans he said: "If I did have a team, I would want it to be the best in the Mississippi valley." This he said with a Scotch snap and a smile that was easily understood. Tho seldom seen on the field, I am certain that he and Mrs. Millikin picked up their ears a bit every time the whistle blew after an athletic meet of any kind.

He enjoyed many social games and in his later years usually went directly to the Decatur Club rooms after banking hours for a game of some kind. I often found him there alone playing soltaire at dusk, which he promptly relinquished to discuss some problem of mutual interest.

Mr. Millikin, in his keen anxiety about the outcome of the college venture, allowed himself to be disturbed unduly by some trusted friends who had very little faith in its future, and some few years afterwards quietly said to Dr. J. W. McDonald: "No one could have made me believe it possible to build up so large an institution in so short a time," adding his great satisfaction at the result.

Later, in strolling about the grounds with his cousin, Miss Kennedy, he joined with her quite heartily in expressing satisfaction and pleasure with the whole plant and the rapid growth and standing which the University had attained.

The life-like portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Millikin were painted by Jean Mannheim about 1899. By approval of the trustees of both estates, the former was assigned to the reception room of the University and the latter to the Art Institute, where it hangs on the wall in the Decatur Art Class room. Mannheim occupied rooms at the old Decatur Hotel then conducted by B. F. Stearnes, whose poetical talent and interest in art along with many social qualities gave him a wide acquaintance which he improved in securing many commissions for his guest by prominent citizens. After completing them, the artist migrated to Los Angeles, where he has become one of the great artists along the coast.

The committee named to select the colors for Millikin was composed of Mesdames B. F. Stearnes, A. R. Taylor, Peter Loeb, and James Millikin. After considerable discussion it unanimously recommended Commodore Decatur's pennant used on his flag staff, a rich blue with white. They were promptly approved and were first used in the decorations of the boxes in the auditorium on the day of the dedication of the first group of buildings. Since then they have gone into our college poetry and song and into all kinds of pennants, badges, pillows, etc., as the slogan for thousands of loyal children. The color of the binding in this book is approximately the Millikin blue.

Mrs. Millikin was very methodical in everything. As we were having our first printing done she asked me to be sure to use the expletive THE so that it would always be a part of the institution's name, as The James Millikin University, which I promised to do and noted that she followed us up to be sure that her request was observed.

At the College the attendance for the opening years was not only surprising and gratifying to Mr. Millikin, but the fact that about a score of states were represented in it was even more so because he could not understand why students came from so far as Texas, Massachusetts, Oregon, Colorado, etc., which really was due to the character of the organization and to the friendship of a host of my former students who desired to place their own children with us.

In looking over the specifications for the main lobby with me, he discovered that the wainscoting named was burlap and asked, why not marble? My reply was that our allowance would not permit it. He quickly replied: "That lobby will be the main entrance to all the groups of buildings on the campus for all time to come. Put it in and send the bill to me." This of course I promptly instructed the architect to do.

He was averse to giving his own name to the University, thinking it might prevent large givers from helping to increase its endowment, but tacitly acceded to the desire of the Board of Trustees and other friends to have their way about it. They thought to give him a pleasant surprise, and without asking his consent instructed the architects to put it in the big stone slab over the main tower entrance. The stone cutter began the work one evening and was hard at it again about 7 A. M. when Mr. Millikin appeared and ordered its discontinuance forthwith. That ended it for good! and "Liberal Arts Hall" took its place.

In speaking to Mr. W. C. Outten, Mr. Millikin's confidential and personal representative on the Board of Trustees and my warm personal friend also one day about the course the president of the University was pursuing, he said: "I think he likes to have his own will about things too well." To which Mr. Outten replied: "Perhaps, but come to think of it, I believe that you and I have pretty strong wills ourselves and would never have accomplished much without them." Mr. Millikin's response was, "I guess that's so." That ended the conversation.

He often received letters from persons seeking positions in the new faculty, but practically without exception he threw them into the waste basket, desiring to leave me free to select my own corps of teachers. In one case, he enclosed the application and having knowledge of the applicant added these words—"I hope she may be found worthy." I was glad to find her so. In another I was considering, I asked his advice and it was adverse, thus settling the matter."

After my arrival at Decatur only men acceptable both to Mr. Millikin and myself were appointed to vacancies on the board of managers. He usually suggested a few names from which to make a choice—a practice followed in spirit by the estate trustees after his death.

I have been unable to discover any particular case of romance in Mr. Millikin's life, tho there may have been more than one. His first veridical photograph at about the age of thirty-five reveals a very attractive face as well as a wholesome physique and a kindly eye.

In the earlier years of the college it was our custom to give very comprehensive exhibits along in early May. They represented quite comprehensively the work being done in the various departments, especially of course in the scientific, art and industrial lines, and made elaborate displays on all the floors in the four buildings. They were very popular, attracting thousands of visitors. The Millikins usually spent a few hours inspecting them, Mr. Millikin saying the first evening as we were rounding up a tour, "Why, this seems like the World's Fair."

During the eight years of my association with our patron I never asked him additional allowances without a generous response. In making up my budget for a coming year I found the estimated income insufficient to meet it, and went to him stating the fact and saying that at least $5,000 additional would be needed to warrant continuance of the civil engineering department. He promptly said he would give it. The following year I had the same story. He cordially granted the sum needed, saying "Don't go in debt."

After the new hall for women, now Aston Hall, was ready for the reception of students, the new matron and myself were invited to the Millikin home to discuss a system of regulations for its government. I found our patrons had already reached an understanding on a few rules modeled after those of the old time women's seminaries, which were very exacting with reference to hours, visiting each other's rooms, church attendance and elsewhere under charge of the matron or official chaperons, dates for company and kindred matters, etc.

We easily agreed upon most rules regarding other matters, but realizing that Mrs. Millikin was undoubedly being prompted largely by her remembrances of those in vogue in

her alma mater over a half century before, it required considerable discussion to convince them that the better class of dormitories in these days were making as few rules as possible, depending upon the honor and good sense of the young women residing in them for the maintenance of an *esprit de corps* more desirable and more efficient in government and character building.

Tho the matron feared that her prerogatives might be endangered, she was willing to endorse my suggestions, and we had little cause for modifications later.

The register of the old McCormack House at Danville, Illinois, which Mr. Millikin afterwards used for a scrap book, contains the name of Abel Millikin, Pennsylvania, under date of August 12, 1853. Among the clippings pasted in the book were the announcement of the Millikin wedding; a very interesting and appreciative obituary of his sister, Nancy Vandyke Millikin, who died September 5, 1854, in her twenty-first year; excerpts of Democratic party platform, 1849, and Republican, 1856; and other political literature including Gerrit Smith's great speech explaining his vote on the Kansas-Nebraska bill published in the New York Tribune in 1854; another was a reproduction of a bitter partisan attack on Henry Clay from the State Register, a leading Douglas organ, under date of August 23, 1844, in a Decatur paper of October 12, 1858,—all revealing his keen interest in current political affairs. This last slip also contained a statement showing the condition of the Decatur Railroad Bank at that time but which failed soon afterwards, Mr. Millikin occupying its office with his new bank in 1860.

Puzzled to know what course to pursue about a faculty member who had a moral slip one day, I stated the case to Mr. Millikin. He replied: "You have come to the wrong man; I always give a man a second chance. If then he fails me, that is his look-out."

In conversing about serious friction in a certain college

and a member of its faculty, Mr. Millikin expressed himself very forcibly in this wise:

"If I were a member of a faculty and could not conscientiously advocate the principles for which it stands, I would promptly resign."

As illustrative of Mr. Millikin's self-possession and coolness in an emergency, the following story is mostly reproduced from the Review:

One night a few years before his death he awoke to find a light burning in his room and himself looking into the muzzle of a revolver. He was compelled to lie there and keep his hands under the cover, the search continuing for several minutes, and in the meantime a brisk conversation between him and the burglar. Not many men have had the pleasure of a friendly conversation with a burglar actively engaged in the cheerful occupation of robbing his premises.

"I've a little money in my pants pocket," said Mr. Millikin.

The burglar had already found that it was less than a dollar.

"I'm sorry I haven't anything more for you," said his captive, "I never have any money. The only use I have for money is to buy street car tickets and cigars. I draw a check for $5 at a time, and it is surprising how quickly $5 will go.

"There is my watch on the mantel," was the next suggestion to the intruder.

"Yes; I saw that. A watch is no account to me." He picked it up, looked at it and laid it back, but before leaving put it in his pocket and took it with him. It was his final undoing, causing his arrest later and sentence to the penitentiary.

There was further talk with the burglar about the silverware in the house. He told the man he thought there was no solid silver there.

"Few people buy sterling silver these days," said Millikin, "and if they did it would scarcely be worth the efforts of a high-class burglar."

Once or twice Mr. Millikin cautioned the man about how he handled his gun; it was uncomfortable to have it trained

on him, not that he feared intentions, but a little carelessness or nervousness might cause trouble. Before leaving the man told him to stay in bed and made dire threats of what would happen if he did not. Once after leaving the room he came back to see if the banker was obeying his instructions.

One time during the interview, Mrs. Millikin appeared in the hall with a lighted candle but was promptly instructed to return to her bed, which she did without delay. In counting up his cash loss the next morning, he found that the thief had secured exactly forty-nine cents. He was amused later to receive a small purse from his Mt. Zion friends enclosing the amount in full as a sympathetic expression of their interest in him.

Tho I was and am still opposed to compulsory Bible study in a college for pedagogical reasons, I was interested to know why Mr. Millikin was so intensely opposed to it.

In response to my inquiry, he said:

"One day I asked Bob Ingersoll what made him an agnostic. He simply replied: 'Compulsory regular reading of the Bible by my parents in my youth.'

"Similar compulsion against my wishes almost set me adrift. I wish every student in Millikin might take it and hope the faculty will urge it upon them, but it should not be required."

Mr. Millikin often asked me how we were getting along and showed keen interest in the moral and religious attitude of the instructors. He repeatedly said that there was no excuse for the existence of the College unless it exalted both. While granting that a majority of the faculty should preferably be Presbyterians, he favored representation of several denominations, but asked me to "tell them all that if they were not active in their own church work, we do not want them in Millikin. Personality should not be subservient to scientific and pedagogical attainments, however."

As an example of the way in which Mr. Millikin picked likely young men up, the followning is inserted here:

I met a coal baron on a train one day who, on learning my relation to him, said: "I owe my success in life to that man. I came from the East when about eighteen years of age, and found odd jobs in Decatur until I got a place with a grain firm, who later sent me out to buy corn for them from the farmers in which I soon became quite expert.

"One day a couple of town acquaintances explained a little business scheme to me which looked very attractive. They said they could get the money to float it, if I would sign a note with them. They would run the business and I could continue with the grain company, getting one-third the profits out of it. I fell to it at once.

"In less than a year the 'firm' failed and the twain skipped. A few days later I received notification that the note I had signed would be due in ten days. I was there on the dot and was invited into Mr. Millikin's private office where lay the evidence of my indebtedness. After enquiring a little about my work as a grain buyer, he said:

"Do you know that you cannot be compelled to pay this note?"

I asked, "Why not?"

He replied, "You were a minor when you signed and are not legally liable."

I said, "But what about the moral obligation?"

"Well, that is up to you," he responded.

"It was for $300, and all my savings in three years' hard work exceeded that amount very little.

"I thought a moment and asked for the pen he held in his hand, tears starting from my eyes as I thought of my rascally partners far away. In a moment I had the note in my hand marked 'Paid.'

"Then he turned to me and asked why I was not buying corn for myself. On replying that I had no money, he said, 'I will let you have all you want.'

"I asked what about the security. He replied, 'I will take a mortgage on the corn you buy.'

"In a few weeks I owed the bank $30,000 and that gave me my start."

It must not be imagined that Mr. Millikin's career was always a bed of roses, for he had disappointments and reverses enough to try his metal and make him cautious for awhile. He learned from them like all successful men do.

The climax of all his life-work was to be the founding of a great University, tho he realized later, as he confronted the proposition that his fortune alone was inadequate for the task, hence his effort to double it by offering dollar for dollar to Decatur and to the Presbyterian Church, a plan which has been also followed by the Trustees of his Estate.

With the union of the Cumberland Presbyterian and Presbyterian Churches in 1906, he had great expectations of a prompt and generous response that would possibly enable him in his lifetime to see in it the leading institution of its kind west of the Alleghany mountains.

It was therefore possibly the greatest disappointment of his life that the College Board of that great church did not raise a single dollar in response to his proposition to give the sum of $400,000 to Millikin's Endowment Fund, provided it would duplicate the same. This was aggravated by the attitude of the secretary of the Board as revealed in their correspondence, though he authorized its renewal by the Trustees of his Estate.

After the transfer of the properties of the former Cumberland Presbyterian church to the United and reunited Presbyterian church U. S. A., including of course the properties and franchises of the James Millikin University, the College Board in New York notified us that unless our board changed our regulations so as to require all students to take a course in Bible study, this institution would not be recognized as entitled to any favors from it in the way of financial aid of any character whatsoever.

Dr. Robert McKenzie, President, and Dr. Dickson, Secretary of the Board, were very tenacious in this demand, the latter declaring that we were not a Christian College in the Presbyterian sense of the word. A very spicy correspondence arose between the Secretary and Mr. Millikin which but increased the latter's irritation, and which was not allayed when

the Synod of Illinois made the same demand of all its colleges expecting its support.

In a conference one morning with me in his library, he declared that he would not contribute another dollar to the University unless the College Board would change its attitude toward Millikin. I reminded him of the fact that I had never had the privilege of discussing the matter with the Board and suggested that I be authorized to do so at its next meeting in New York. This he then asked me to do. Though I had arranged with Dr. McKenzie to be present, I was greatly surprised to learn that the Board was adjourning in another room without seeing me, and protested against such treatment, whereupon he stated that he had authority to settle the matter with me. After its adjournment, he and Dr. Dickson discussed it with me and I was asked to return the next morning. On my arrival, Dr. McKenzie submitted a statement reciting Mr. Millikin's conditions for further assistance to Decatur College from him and stating that as "all rules had their exception," the College Board would make one in this case and cooperate with it in its development as cordially as with the other colleges of the denomination.

Though Dr. Dickson announced his opposition to the concession, intimating that I was the real block in the way, I told him that Mr. Millikin had a mind of his own and was against required Bible study on his own initiative.

On my return home I presented the paper to Mr. Millikin and he quietly said, "Well, that is not so bad." On a moment's reflection however he said, "But suppose the Board or Synod would later on take a notion to renew this demand, who would be here to defend my position?" I became very solicitious and replied that a clause in his will would sufficiently guard against such a move. He seemed to be pleased at the suggestion and when the will was opened a codicil to that effect was attached and his trustees given authority to use part of his estate for charitable purposes as well as educational in the city of Decatur only.

After concession on the part of Lincoln that its charter should be so modified that the two colleges should constitute the James Millikin University with a board of fifteen trustees, each of which should have a local board of managers appointed by the general board, a committee of three from Lincoln, Frank Hoblit, J. T. Foster and one other visited Mr. Millikin and asked him in consideration of the financial benefit of the untaxable charter under which Lincoln College had been operating since its founding in 1865, if he did not feel warranted in making a substantial contribution to the endowment fund of Lincoln.

Mr. Millikin was feeling quite good over the reception his gift to Decatur had been given, and with little delay asked how much they could profitably use in stimulating a reciprocal response at Lincoln to erect an administration building, then much needed. The interview closed with a proposition on his part to give $50,000 to the endowment fund there on condition that the citizens of Lincoln and Logan county raise the sum of $25,000 for the proposed building.

The committee called a meeting there at once and with unrestrained enthusiasm the entire community set about securing the needed pledge which was soon accomplished.

In the meantime Mr. Millikin came to the conclusion that he had made a mistake to agree to help Lincoln and was so fully convinced of it that he asked Mr. I. R. Mills, who had led the Decatur city campaign to a successful issue after it seemed likely to fail and had become President of the Decatur Board of Managers, to use his influence to secure a release from the Lincoln friends. Mr. Mills, however, told him that it was too late to attempt it for Lincoln had gone ahead in good faith and fulfilled its part of the contract—hence he was honor bound to do the same.

One of Mr. Millikin's fears was that as Lincoln had so long been crippled financially it would not be able even with his handsome gift to recoup and that sooner or later it would fall into other hands and its property lost to the church and the University. Being conversant quite well with the whole situation, I suggested that he might salvage his gift by accompanying it with a letter adding that its acceptance by

the Lincoln Board must be on condition that should that college at any time withdraw from its connection with The James Millikin University the gift should revert to its Board of Trustees. That suggestion appeared to satisfy him, and I formulated the letter which he sent along with the funds to Lincoln's Board of Managers. The condition being satisfactory to them, the incident was closed.

In reality, however, Mr. Millikin still keenly felt that he had made a serious mistake in diverting that large sum from the Decatur enterprise and asked the College Commission to enter into a contract with him to raise $50,000 more in excess of the original $100,000 pledged by it, he agreeing on his part to duplicate it as fast as raised. Though the Commission did so and paid interest on that amount at the rate of 5% for six years into the Decatur College treasury, the untoward conditions involved in the proposed union of the Cumberland Presbyterian and Presbyterian churches made it impossible to meet its obligation for the principal.

Here Mr. Millikin's generous attitude towards the members of the Commission in releasing them from it was characteristic of the man.

In my browsing thru the histories of Washington and Fayette Counties, I came across many interesting items, especially the recital of the part the McFarland people took in suppressing the great Whiskey Rebellion lasting thru the first three or four years following 1790, and embracing a large part of Western Pennsylvania on both sides of the Monongahela river up to Virginia on the South. It was caused by the imposition of a heavy excise tax on rum and whiskey by the National Government which affected thousands of private stills in that region. Its enforcement was accompanied with great difficulty chiefly because of corruption and insubordination among the constabulary requiring the presence of the State Militia and National soldiers to execute the laws. Colonels Daniel and Abel McFarland were especially active in suppressing the disorders, the former being in charge of large detachments of troops. In Washington County alone some 272 illicit private stills were taken and confiscated.

James Millikin II—See page 8—leaving his parents and friends came to America in 1771 and settled on Ten-Mile Creek, Amwell Tp., Washington Co., Pa. He is described as a very quiet inoffensive weaver by trade. His grandson and name-sake, our James XI, passed many pleasant hours with him when a lad in the loomshop filling grills for his grandfather's shuttles, while the weaver sang songs and told stories of the "Auld Country." He always claimed to be of pure Scotch blood and protested being called "an Irishman."

His wife Dolly bore him eleven children and outlived him many years. His house was on a knoll facing Ten-Mile Creek a short distance away. It was of hewn logs, two stories of one room each, tho an addition of one room was built by one of his sons after his marriage.

In his will of June 20, 1820, he bequeathed one hundred dollars to each of his seven children, certain named properties to his wife Dolly, and "the plantation on which I now live consisting of 190 acres more or less and a 40-acre tract adjoining, to two sons, William and Abel," the latter becoming the father of our James XI.

He also bequeathed certain designated personal properties to his wife, Dolly Millikin, along with the real and personal estate inherited from her father. He also provided that after all debts and funeral expenses were paid the executors, his wife and Isaac Buckingham, "the residue should be divided equally among all his children, deducting any amounts advanced to them as individuals as shown by his Book."

In a codicil he added, "I do bequeath to my beloved wife Dolly, in addition to all the articles granted as above, one other feather bed and bedding and two coms." He died July 30, 1821.

His brother, William I, seems to have owned land nearby and adjoining on the same side of the creek described in the patent from the State of Pennsylvania, on page 11, and William III and Abel, his nephews, thus became owners of almost a full section of good land there constituting the Millikin homesteads.

In the letter written by William I's father, James I, in 1786 to James II, he sent his love to William and his family,

but Ridlon states that after the most diligent search and the use of considerable money in correspondence he failed to find any trace of his wife or children. He died on May 6, 1800. He thinks possibly the following will was made by a daughter of William I.

> "July 11, 1811. In the name of God, Amen. I will and bequeath to my fore sisters all my wearing apparel to be equally divided among them except one pair of silk gloves and one muslen shawl; that I allow to My Sister Dolley more than the rest. I will and bequeath to my brother James My part of the land, My Mare and Sadel and Chest and Bedd to pay the expenses as far as it goes, and if any remains to my Brother James Millikin, to pay it in consideration of the land. This my Last Will and Testament. In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal the date above written. Marey Millikin, her Seal Mark."

The record says that William II, fifth son of James II, settled on a part of his father's homestead farm. He was the father of ten children and died August 10, 1845, on that farm, aged fifty-five years and ten months. He was familiarly known as old "Bill Millikin, the Irishman" tho really Scotch, and his sayings outlived his life in that locality. It also says that Abel Millikin, his brother, the eighth son and son inheritor of their father's land, and father of our James XI by Nancy Vandyke remained on the old homestead where the five children were born. His mother, Dolly, lived with him for many years until her death. She was very fond of her grandson, our James XI, who reciprocated her affection and special interest in him.

Among the many prominent relatives of Mr. Millikin, Miss Joan Minor Kennedy of Hamilton, Ohio, to whom we are greatly indebted for much valuable material in this memoir, has long been recognized as one of the most accomplished and well known women in that state. She is the daughter of Joan Millikin Kennedy, daughter of Dr. Samuel Millikin, son of James Millikin X and his wife, Dolly McFarland Millikin, hence a second cousin of our James Millikin. She seems to have inherited many of the remarkable character-

istics of her distinguished grandmother, which easily won her acquaintance and recognition in many circles. Her attractive home has long been the center of much of its intellectual and forward looking life.

She was a great favorite of our Mr. Millikin and often visited in his home, sharing with him and Mrs. Millikin in their confidences and plans as probably with few others. She was deeply interested in the founding and development of the University at Decatur and in the Art Institute also. She made many warm friends here.

She had personal acquaintance with practically all this line of Millikins and their kin who have lived since 1850, and recalls the visit of five fine big Millikin brothers—John, James, Andrew, Samuel, Robert and Abel—to her father's home in Pennsylvania in the fifties before he came to Ohio.

She is the founder of the Hamilton Literary Club, which was organized in 1874. As I write this, a letter from her states that she is the last survivor of the Kennedy-Millikin line.

She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution thru three lines: Colonel Daniel McFarland, father of Dollie McFarland Millikin; Colonel John Minor, father of Joan Minor Millikin; and Thomas Kennedy, father of Samuel Kennedy, who was the father of Robert Kennedy, father of Joan.

She is also a member of the United States Daughters of 1812 thru Doctor Daniel Millikin, father of Joan Millikin Kennedy, who was staff officer to General Wingate of the Army of General Arthur Sinclair and of the Army of General Anthony Wayne.

At her suggestion I called on some Topeka McFarlands in November, 1924, soon locating a Mr. Hugh McFarland, a lawyer in the Mulvane block.

He explained to me that he was a son of James D. McFarland, a brother of Noah C. McFarland, who married Sarah Millikin, sister of our James Millikin. Judge Noah C. McFarland was a prominent citizen of Kansas, a member of an important commission in the Interior department at Washington for some time and later resident Financial Agent

for the state of Kansas there for many years. He was born April 23, 1822, and died May 5, 1896. He amassed large properties, leaving practically all to his son, James Millikin McFarland, who was born in Topeka, April 10, 1851, and died April 24, 1924.

Just before Noah's death he sent for Mr. Millikin to come and see him. After remaining some days with little change in the Judge's condition, he told him that he desired to return to Decatur and asked him if he had any special message for him. The Judge then asked him to care for his son James in his need, his name-sake. This Mr. Millikin promised to do. He was already a great book-lover with a passion for collecting rare editions of expensively bound books without regard to price. He was lavish in expenditures in other ways and the liberal patrimony left him by his father gradually disappeared, so that in the thirteen years elapsing until Mr. Millikin's death, it was evident that any further sum left him, large or small, would not last very long.

Confident of such a result, Mr. Millikin instructed his trustees to pay him a life annuity of $1200.00 in monthly installments. He was sorely disappointed that it was no larger, explaining to his friends that he should have been left a half million.

I remember having shown him thru our new buildings as he visited Mr. Millikin 1903-4. He expressed his warm admiration of the plant and the plan of organization and told me of his intention to leave his comprehensive and growing collection of books which he had told his Uncle James that he intended to leave to the University later. Mr. Millikin had explained his intentions to me and suggested that I show him every courtesy possible, which I am certain that I did not fail to do. He attended Mr. Millikin's funeral and with Joan Kennedy, his cousin, was entertained at dinner at our house. He was afflicted for many years with slight paralysis that affected his walking somewhat and which gradually became worse year by year, making him increasingly helpless, finally requiring a nurse and separate accommodations in a rooming house. In speaking of these matters, Mrs. James D. McFarland explained to me that he had become

such a burden that she was unable to keep him in her house, tho she did not lose interest in him. The Masons shared in his care, which he appreciated greatly.

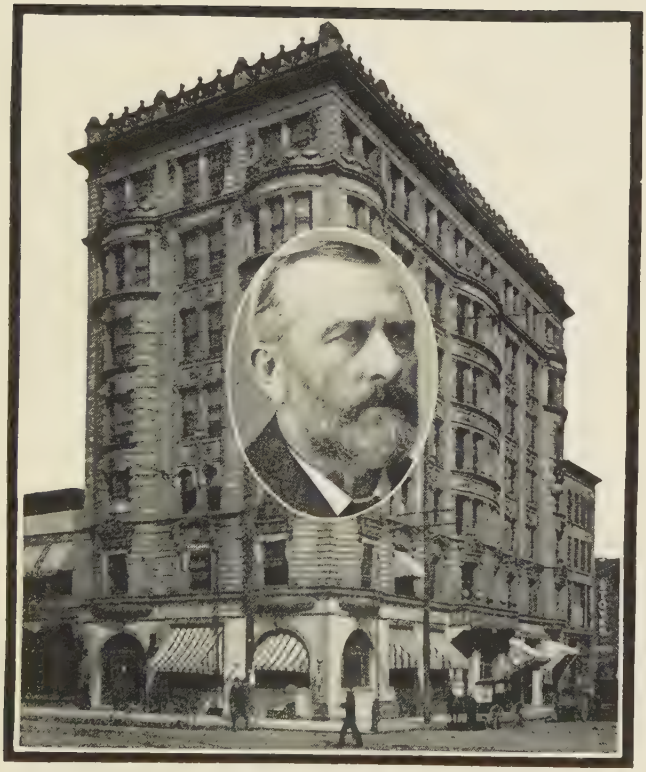
A short time before his death he sent for Hugh McFarland and asked him to write his will, a copy of which he showed me. It was very brief and provided that his entire library should go to the Kansas Grand Lodge of Masons, on condition that it would guarantee to house it suitably and provide for its preservation intact in perpetuity. He gave a few minor belongings to personal friends, and left the McFarland family Bible with the family record in it to Mrs. James D. McFarland, which she kindly showed me. He had already distributed the family silver and valuable bric-a-brac to his intimates and relatives against the advice of this aunt.

I asked Mr. McFarland, his administrator, whether he thought the bequest to the Masons was influenced by his keen disappointment over the fancied slight in the allowance from Mr. Millikin. He said it was possible, but reminded me of the care the lodge had given him. There were some claims against his estate amounting to some $400 or $500 which they paid and thus increased their title to his library, tho the Trustees of the Millikin Estate expressed willingness to provide for legitimate items.

After Mr. Millikin's death I did not forget McFarland's promise and had word from time to time as to his condition from some friends. I wrote him once, perhaps twice, reminding him of our expectations and tried to open the way for a personal conference, but as he made no reply, I took it for granted that the books would be left to Millikin, as he had stated.

The State Grand Chapter was already occupying a surprisingly beautiful marble building near the State House Grounds and had made generous provisions for a library and museum, where the McFarland books were at once installed. There are about 5,700 volumes in it, each one revealing the rare literary and aesthetic taste of the owner. I could hardly believe my eyes as I passed from section to section and realized the great value of the collection. The Grand Lodge

Secretary and Custodian, an intimate friend of Mr. McFarland, assured me that he was an inveterate reader and had really read every book on the shelves, a feat that seems incredible. In my disappointment I had some comfort in knowing that another Millikin, tho so afflicted and unfortunate, had left so graceful and useful a heritage to his home city for the enlightenment and uplift of generations to come.



GTU Library
3 2400 00675 1683

LD2601.J2513 M54 1926
SFTS
Taylor, Albert R
The life story of James Millikin : founder of the the James Millikin University

SFTS Library
105 Seminary Road
San Anselmo, CA 94960
(415) 451-2845
All items are subject to recall